Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

Volume XXVII, Issue No. 164
FRIDAY AUGUST 18, 2017
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Hazmat unit looks into unknown substance in shipment. PAGE 6
North Korea nuke conflict renews push to change Guam govt. PAGE 13

PSS: Opening day of classes was smooth

By BEA CABRERA
bea_cabrera@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Public School System

San Vicente Elementary School teacher Annabelle Sanchez welcomes her reading class with 4th graders to her classroom.
BEA CABRERA

opened its doors to new and returning teachers and students on Wednesday with an atmosphere of excitement, new beginnings, and new learning.

San Vicente Elementary School welcomed a total of 649 students for school year 2017-2018, according to principal Paulette T. Sablan.

"Our numbers have been changing since we started. Last year, we opened with 660 students, so it's close. But the thing that is consistent with us is that we never

See PSS on **Page 4**

Taitingfong found guilty

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

It took a Superior Court jury less than three hours yesterday to unanimously find 24-year-old Jodan Santos Taitingfong guilty of beating up a woman during a robbery at her Micro Beach Hotel apartment in Garapan on July 7, 2016.

Taitingfong, who was found guilty of robbery and aggravated assault and battery, will be sentenced on Dec. 5, 2017.

He faces a possible 20 years in prison for the robbery charge and 10 years for the aggravated assault and battery charge.

Taitingfong appeared calm

See GUILTY on Page 4

File photo shows Jodan Santos Taitingfong, right, walking with another man on Tuesday toward the courtroom of Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio.
FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Bill to unfreeze wages goes to Torres

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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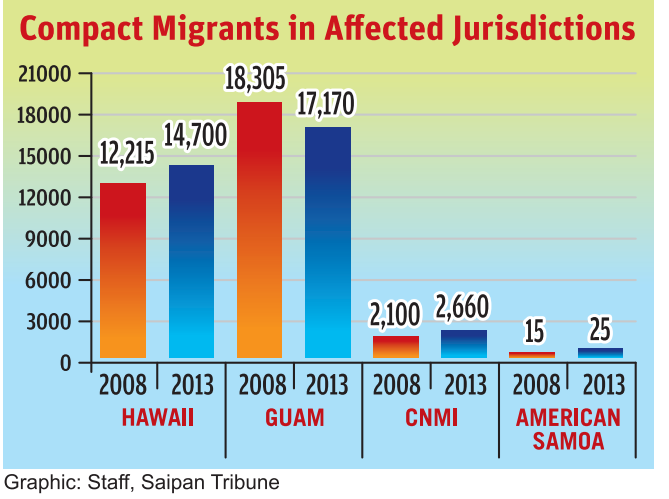
REPORTER

For the second time in a row, a reluctant Senate agreed yesterday to pass a $1.4-million appropriation bill, even after questions of funding sources went unanswered.

House Bill 20-108 HD1, which seeks to allocate $1.4 million as lump-sum payment for the 330 active or inactive government employees that had their wages frozen at Step 12, passed the Senate with a 9-0 vote.

See BILL on Page 4

Count of Compact migrants to start soon



Graphic: Staff, Saipan Tribune

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The U.S. Census Bureau has been officially tasked to carry out the next 5-year enumeration of migrants from the Freely Associated States.

The next census, which will be implemented in Hawaii, Guam, the CNMI, and American Samoa, will occur in fiscal year 2018 and be completed by December 2018.

In the last census in 2013, a total of 2,660 migrants from the FAS were counted in the

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INSIDE

WORLD
Families wait in line to try to identify the corpses of loved ones.
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OFF THE WALL
Wisconsin man accidentally shoots a nail into his heart while working on his house.
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LIFE & STYLE
Daniel Craig confirmed that he will return for another James Bond movie.
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Local

Senate OKs bill to lengthen public land leases to 55 yrs.

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

In order to generate renewed economic interest, a bill that extends the term of public land leases to 55 years passed the Senate yesterday after three proposed amendments.

Senate Bill 20-35, SD3 passed the Senate with a 9-0 vote. It now heads to the House of Representatives for action. If passed into law, SB 20-35 SD3 would extend public land leases to 40 years, with an option to extend by 15 years.

Although it does not automatically extend the terms of existing public land leases, the bill states that "only existing public land leases with an existing hotel or golf course may be amended to extend the existing lease term up to 55 years," subject to new terms and consideration based on at least two new appraisal reports and must be in compliance with law and approved by the Legislature in a joint session.

The Department of Public Lands would be given flexibility to negotiate new public land leases with certain existing public land lessees that have "hotels or golf courses on the leased property" with five years or less on the lease.

Sen. Paul Mangloña (Ind-Rota) inserted a floor amendment that existing lessees negotiating for a new 40-year public land lease plus a 15-year extension "must be subject to new terms and conditions" that include rental based on at least two new appraisals, new improvements or development on the property "to be leased beneficial to the economic development of the CNMI."

The bill also calls for existing lessees negotiating for the extended lease to create public improvements separate from the lessees' activities such as construction or renovation of public facilities, the establishment of in-house job training programs for CNMI residents, and financial contribution to an independent job training program or scholarship fund.

Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan) authored the bill; it now heads to the House for action.

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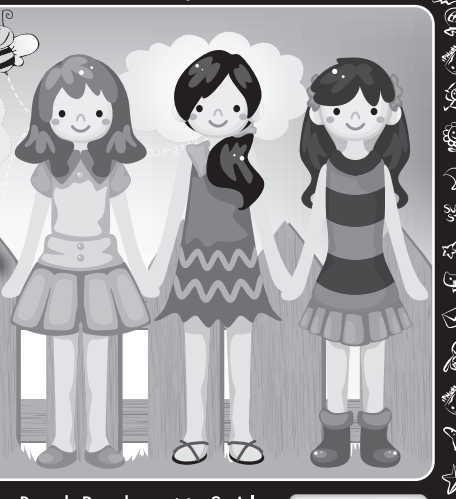
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MVA: CNMI tourism unaffected by Guam missile crisis

By BEA CABRERA
bea_cabrera@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Marianas Visitors Authority said the islands' No. 1 economic driver—the tourism industry—has been unaffected and remains consistent despite the recent threats of North Korea to fire missiles at neighboring Guam.

"The CNMI remains a safe destination. Safety is always a concern for the MVA. However, we are fully confident that the U.S. military is ready and able to counter any threats made against the CNMI at any time," said MVA managing manager Chris Concepcion.

On Monday, the conversation between U.S. President Donald J. Trump and Guam Gov. Eddie Calvo revolved around Guam's tourism industry being bolstered by the international exposure the U.S. territory is getting from North Korea's provocations.

"Guam was the target of North Korea, not the CNMI, and we are relieved that no mention in news media has been made about the CNMI being in any danger," said Concepcion.

The MVA chief said CNMI visitors continue to arrive and services to these tourists on all of the islands have not fallen short. He also believes the U.S. is fully committed to protecting the CNMI.

"We want to reassure the world that the CNMI remains a completely safe destination. It remains business as usual for the tourism industry. Our visitors continue to arrive in record droves. There has not been any drop in arrivals," he said.

Currently, the marketing of the CNMI in South Korea has been strong and keeping up with the theme that the CNMI is a "paradise for everyone."

Concepcion said the appointment of Korean celebrities to stand as Marianas ambassadors, product placement in major TV programs, exposure in home shopping programs, and cooperative promotions with airlines, brand name companies, and other partners attest to the CNMI's commitment to the Korean market.

"Korea remains our top source market. Because the CNMI is served by five different airlines out of Korea daily, it is very easy for visitors from Korea to choose the CNMI as their preferred destination," he said.

Concepcion added that Korea has actually surpassed Japan in terms of total outbound traffic, which is an incredible feat given that Korea has less than half the population of Japan as a whole.

"Korea is a stable and mature market and the MVA will continue to invest in this key source market for the foreseeable future," he added.

According to MVA, 51 percent of CNMI visitor arrivals are from South Korea, based on a year-to-date report released in August.

"We did of course have our pulse on the situation and were kept abreast with what was happening in Korea by our representative office in Seoul. But it's business-as-usual for the MVA. While we are cautious with the threats being made against Guam by North Korea, we acknowledge that most of that was foolish rhetoric on the part of North Korea and are fully confident in the power of the U.S. military to defend our islands against any threat," Concepcion said.

To this end, the MVA managing director continues to invite tourists to visit and Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

"The target for North Korea is Guam since there are military installations there. There are zero U.S. military bases in the CNMI so we remain a safe place to visit and invest," he added.

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BILL

From Page 1

Numerous senators said the bill, which is retroactive in nature, did not specify the source of the funding, causing numerous members to question the legislation.

Sen. Paul Mangloña (Ind-Rota) pushed for more attention toward the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. and the Public School System.

In March this year, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres recognized about $28 million for supplemental appropriation. Of that amount, $20.5 million was taken for land compensation payments. That left $8 million to be appropriated. Now, $1.4 million, which is being proposed for the lump-sum payments, would be taken from $8 million. That would leave $5.95 million for appropriation. That is less than the 25 percent that is the mandated share of PSS from the original $28 million.

"This is serious negligence on the part of the Legislature. I don't want to became a part of the negligence," said Mangloña. "PSS and CHCC—especially CHCC—needs funding right now," he said.

Still, he is "happy" that the frozen retroactive wages of several employees would be addressed.

Sen. Teresita Santos (R-Rota) said it is "just and fair" that the legislation be supported at that moment. "This legislation is long overdue," she said.

"Our legal counsel raised the concern that an amendment to the bill may or may not be constitutionally legal as the source of funding was not specifically identified, thus I support the bill in its original form to facilitate the retroactive payments of the affected individuals," said Santos in an email to *Saipan Tribune*.

"However, I ask the full Senate that on any subsequent bill, we, the Senate solidify our efforts to allocate a certain percentage of funding to address the growing and pressing needs of the first, second, and third senatorial districts, including CHCC, PSS, Medical Referral, and the CNMI Scholarship Program," she wrote.

Sen. Steve Mesngon (R-Rota) expressed frustrations over the bill, saying the Office of Personnel Management must "upgrade OPM staffing for [the] three senatorial districts."

The OPM was involved in securing the lists of all the names of the employees frozen at Step 12. Public Law 19-75 first addressed a few of the names; however OPM failed to include several other government employees that were also frozen at Step 12.

In a message to the House, Sen. Francisco Cruz (R-Tinian) said: "Please be mindful that we have to sit down and talk about the next appropriation because we cannot continue to go on like this. Our senatorial district needs assistance from these sources." "We need to sit down, otherwise [in] the next appropriation from the House, I [can't guarantee my vote].

Sen. Sixto Igisomar (R-Saipan) said he supports the intent of the bill but hopes that the agencies responsible would "do their job" to prevent repetitive actions.

HB 20-108 HD1 now heads to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres for signing.

PSS

From Page 1

go below 620. We are happy with the turnout," she said.

Aside from traffic and the lack of parking, the first day of school went without a hitch.

"Our first day was smooth and the only issue we had was the traffic but it was expected. The first day of school is when parents want to drop their kids off. We didn't have enough parking space to cover all of that but, by lunch time, everyone was pretty much settled," Sablan said.

This year, SVES has a lot of district initiatives and will focus on their new curriculum.

"Last year we initiated new curriculums for English, Language, Arts, and Math. For 2017, we are building on English, Language, and Arts curriculum and implementing the new curriculum for Social Studies and Science. We will be working hard to achieve student learning and increase student achievement," Sablan said.

Dandan Middle School has so far welcomed a total of 346 students for the new school year.

School vice principal Reo Arriola expects the numbers to still go up. "There are kids coming in from other schools and some of them are still completing their health certificates because we are really strict about that."

Arriola said SVES has been averaging between 340 and 350 students in the past three years since it opened as a middle school.

"This is our fourth year and our numbers have been pretty stable in that range, which is ideal for us because it allows us to keep a good amount of students in a classroom," he said.

Overall, the opening of classes at Dandan Middle School was organized and the parents and students were happy with the transition.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

COUNT

From Page 1

CNMI, up from the 2,100 in 2008.

The FAS refers to the Federated States of Micronesia (Yap, Pohnpei, Chuuk, Kosrae), Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau.

In a statement yesterday, it said that acting Interior assistant secretary Nikolao Pula has signed a statement of work with the U.S. Census Bureau to carry out the enumeration of FAS migrants, as required by the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (Public Law 108-188). The results of the census is the basis for allocating funds to help offset the economic and social impact of these migrants in the affected jurisdictions.

"The law requires that we work with the Census Bureau to conduct this enumeration every five years as the basis for the distribution of Compact impact funds," said Pula. "I have reached out to [the] governors of Guam, Hawaii, the CNMI, and American Samoa, asking for their cooperation to ensure the enumeration is successful. We have also reached out to members of Congress."

Karen Battle, who heads the Population Division of the U.S. Census Bureau, said: "We look forward to working closely with officials on Guam and in the CNMI as well as with the communities of Micronesians, Marshallese and Palauans living there to ensure the data are complete and accurate.

"We have established an approach that is appropriate and ensures that data for all four jurisdictions are comparable during this round, just as it has been in the past," she said. "We can also ensure that we are committed to and bound by law to protect the privacy of individuals."

Data on Compact migrants in American Samoa and Hawaii will be obtained from existing sources, namely the 2010 Census figures for American Samoa where there are fewer Compact migrants, and the American Community Survey data for 2015-17 for Hawaii, which will provide more current data.

Field surveys will be conducted in Guam and the CNMI, following the same method as was used in the 2008 enumeration.

Census and Interior officials will be visiting Guam and Saipan in the near future to make necessary arrangements to launch this effort.

Under current law, the 2018 enumeration should be the last as the financial provisions under the Compact, including Compact impact funding, expire in 2023.

The cost of conducting the 2018 enumeration will be $1,490,039.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

GUILTY

From Page 1

as he listened to a court staff read the guilty verdict at 4:42pm.

The victim, a 42-year-old Chinese national, sat silently as an interpreter told her about the proceedings.

Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio presided over the trial.

After the hearing, Taitingfong's parents and his sister hugged him. His mother and sister burst into tears. Taitingfong himself appeared calm. Some of his family members, relatives, and friends were also present.

The benches behind the prosecution's table were filled mostly with police officers and staff of the Office of the Attorney General.

In an interview after the hearing, assistant attorney general Teri Tenorio, who prosecuted the case, said the victim suffered a tremendous amount of injuries yet stepped forward to seek justice, which demonstrates a lot of courage.

She said the jury sent a message that everybody is deserving of equal protection. She also thanked the police officers. "They have collaborated with our office and devoted tremendous amount of time, personal time, seeking justice in this case."

Defense lawyer Rosemond Santos thanked the jury for doing their civic duty.

"We respect the verdict," she said.

Santos said they are looking at options for appeal.

The trial started on Monday. The prosecution called 15 witnesses. The defense did not call any witness.

In the government's closing argument yesterday, Tenorio said the pieces of the puzzle point to Taitingfong committing the crime. She urged the jurors to keep the island safe and convict a violent criminal.

In her closing argument, Santos said there are many questions unanswered by the government's witnesses. "The police could have and should have done more. But they have not."

Santos pointed out that the police only believed the alleged victim, whose statements and testimony did not match the evidence.

Tenorio said the testimony of the witnesses and the pieces of evidence show only one conclusion: That Taitingfong brutally hit the victim, took her purse, and fled.

She stressed that the evidence does not require a video showing the defendant beating the victim. She said no law requires that.

There is indeed inconsistency in the victim's statements but Tenorio blamed Taitingfong for that. She said the victim not only lost a tooth and damaged two teeth, she also lost her appetite, she often has headache but, most importantly, she lost her memory.

She said that, according to the doctor, the victim had minor brain injury and could have suffered a concussion that could not be seen from an X-ray or CT scan.

"That is what we have here," Tenorio said.

She pointed out that, on the day when the incident happened, the victim told a police detective that she felt dizzy, had a headache, and was having a hard time understanding questions.

Tenorio said the doctor testified that he gave the victim a very powerful medicine that day that could have caused her dizziness.

That is why the victim could not answer some of the detective's questions, she said.

The prosecutor said Taitingfong immediately ran away from the scene and even nearly collided with one of the employees of Micro Beach Hotel.

If he is not guilty, why was he running away, Tenorio said, even jumping to the adjacent building, instead of using the front entrance of the hotel.

Tenorio said the video showed that it was only Taitingfong who jumped from the balcony to the other building, then ran toward the alley.

She pointed out that the defense came up with a lot of things that do not even matter, such as raising the issue whether the defendant's hat was tested for DNA, among other things, and that they don't even know who owns the hat.

"Really?" the prosecutor said, citing that it is clear in the video that Taitingfong was wearing that hat and that the defendant even admitted to police it was his hat.

Tenorio said another video showed that Taitingfong stopped running and at that time he was no longer wearing the hat.

The prosecutor said Taitingfong threw the hat and his shirt, and then the victim's bag while he was on his way to his house in As Lito.

She said police later found the shirt, hat, and the bag.

Tenorio said Taitingfong has a guilty mind as he even cut his long hair and, in fact, shaved his head completely.

She said the defendant did this to prevent the victim from identifying him in the courtroom.

In fact, the prosecutor noted, when the victim took the witness stand, Taitingfong sat beside former lawyer Joseph Arriola instead of sitting beside Santos. Tenorio said this sitting arrangement is not normal.

Arriola has been assisting Santos in the trial.

The defendant's alibi is that he asked for a massage and when the victim asked him for money, he left because he had none, and that he ran because he was scared that the victim would make a scene.

"Seriously? You want a massage and you don't have money?" Tenorio asked. She urged the jurors to consider the reasonableness of Taitingfong's answers.

The prosecutor said Taitingfong knew he had been caught on video so he told police that he was carrying his betel nut bag in his short pants' pocket.

Tenorio said nowhere in the video does it show something bulging in Taitingfong's pocket.

"Lying and stealing are next door neighbors," Tenorio said.

In her closing arguments, Santos cited inconsistencies in the statements and testimony of the victim.

Santos said the alleged victim stated that after she regained consciousness, she crawled downstairs, met her friend, and fainted again. Santos said the video showed she did not crawl but was escorted by two friends.

The defense lawyer said the alleged victim also could not identify Taitingfong in the courtroom.

She said the alleged victim had different versions about the contents of her bag. First, that the bag had $2,500 and a cellphone, then she later stated that the purse was worth $500 and had $56 and other items.

Santos said police detective Jeffrey Norita, who is in charge of this case, admitted that he did not interview the other occupants in the hotel and did not consider other potential suspects.

Assistant attorney general Jonathan Glass Jr. assisted Tenorio in the trial.

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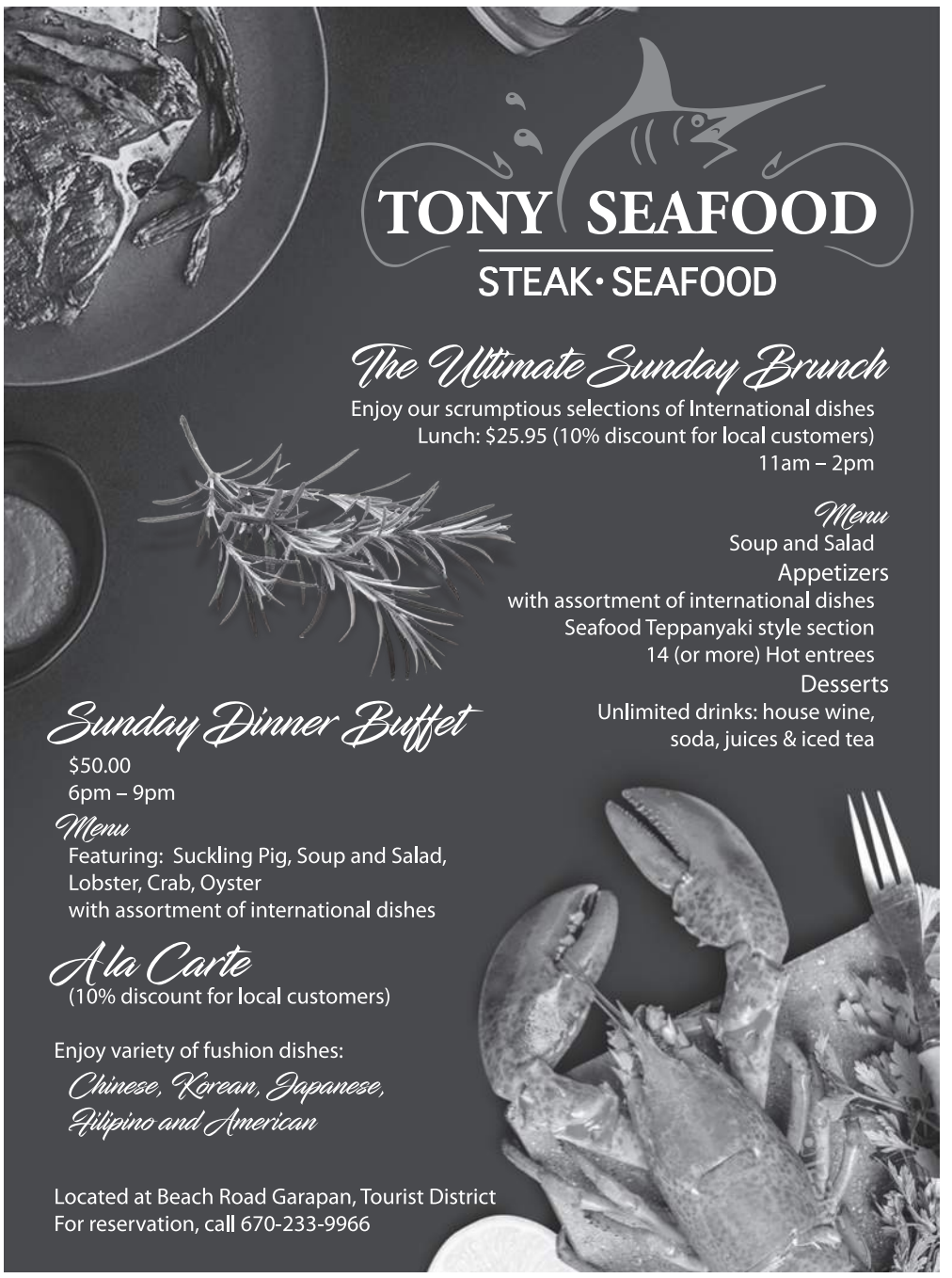
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Hazmat unit looks into substance in shipment

Wearing protective suits, members of the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services hazmat unit get ready to investigate an unknown liquid substance found in 2-liter bottles that were seized from a shipment from China. The samples that were taken will be sent to an off-island laboratory for further testing. DEREK GERSONDE

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CNMI Customs Service sought the assistance of a hazmat unit (hazardous materials) from the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services on Wednesday morning to investigate an unknown liquid substance seized from a shipment from China.

DFEMS spokesman Derek Gersonde said the hazmat unit responded to the Saipan Seaport in Lower Base, at Customs' request, to investigate the unknown substance.

Gersonde said that Customs personnel found 2-liter bottles filled with the unknown liquid in the shipment.

Six DFEMS personnel completed the operation that began in the morning and lasted until afternoon.

Gersonde did not provide information as to who owns the shipment.

Customs has yet to release information on how they were able to intercept the substance.

Samples taken by the hazmat unit will be sent to an off-island laboratory for further testing.

"The remaining content is safely stored within CNMI Customs secure storage room," he said, adding that further information will be released when available.

US govt won't oppose testimony of PH-based witness

The U.S. government will not oppose having a key witness of one of the six defendants in a CW-1 case who is currently in the Philippines from testifying via video conference.

Assistant U.S. attorney James Benedetto, counsel for the U.S. government, informed the U.S. District Court for the NMI that he was inclined to oppose this, but will not do so since the defense counsels have been accommodating and have agreed to U.S. government transcribers appearing by video teleconferencing to deal with authentication issues.

Janet H. King earlier asked the court to allow the witness of her client, Analyn Nunez, to testify from Manila via videoconference.

According to the minutes of a pre-trial conference last Tuesday, Benedetto said he was inclined to oppose that motion because it would be necessary to cross-examine that witness, perhaps vigorously. However, he said he will not oppose the motion.

That paved the way for designated Judge John C. Coughenour to allow the testimony.

In Nunez's motion to allow the video testimony, King said their key witness, an employee of TBK Auto Cares & Repair, had left the CNMI.

King said the witness is unable to appear personally in court because he is currently in the Philippines and cannot enter the CNMI until his I-129 CW-1 visa is approved by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

King said the witness' testimony at trial is crucial to the defense, that the alien workers from Bangladesh employed by TBK had asked the witness how to marry a "local" and obtain "green cards."

The indictment charged Nunez with one count of mail fraud and one count of misuse of visas and permits.

Coughenour set the jury trial and her four co-defendants on Aug. 28, 2017.

Coughenour also discussed interpreter issues with the parties' counsels at the pre-trial conference.

Nunez co-defendants are Muksedur Rahman, Md. Rafiqul Islam, David Trung Quoc Phan, and Shahinur Akter. A sixth defendant, Zeaur Rahman Dalu, had already pleaded guilty.

Benedetto stated in court documents that integral to the defendants' scheme to defraud was the collection of large amounts of money—roughly between $15,000 and $20,000—from each of the 12 named victims in this case. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

'NSDA helps students find their voice'

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A consistent participant in National Speech and Debate Association competitions believe that these activities motivate young individuals to find their voice and speak up.

During the Rotary Club of Saipan meeting last week at the Hyatt Regency Saipan, veteran NSDA participant Yukii Nishida said his participation in speech performances and debates has also allowed him to become a good influence to his peers.

Nishida has been participating in NSDA competitions since he was in Kindergarten up until high school. Recently, Nishida was given the Four-Year National Qualifier Award at the 2017 National Speech and Debate Tournament in Birmingham, Alabama last June.

He counts the many opportunities that he has had with NSDA and that he would never forget the bond that was created between him and the friends he has made.

Two individuals also performed their pieces at the Rotary meeting.

Jonathan Wolfe performed a comedic piece that he prepared during the nationals last June.

The second performer was Vladimir Palma, who advanced to the final round and was ranked fifth in the nation for Dramatic Interpretation. Palma performed a dramatic piece.

In related news, the NSDA was able to break a record for the Commonwealth because for the first time, majority of the representatives from Saipan who took part in the national tournament advanced to the finals.

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Society for Human Resource Management Guam Chapter board members present the school supplies and a check of financial support to Diana Calvo, executive director, and Maria Taitano, board member, of Guam's Catholic Social Services.

SHRM Guam donates school supplies, $1.5K

HAGATNA, Guam—The Society for Human Resource Management Guam Chapter and its members recently donated $500 worth of school supplies and a check totaling $1,500 to Catholic Social Services.

SHRM Guam Chapter members donated a variety of school supplies to assist Catholic Social Services reduce the burden on their clients with school-age children with much needed supplies.

The SHRM Guam Chapter recognizes the interdependency and close-knit nature of our small island community. Chapter leaders supported the initiative to provide financial support to Catholic Social Services whose mission is to "encourage the development of the spiritual, intellectual, economic, and social well-being of families, persons with disabilities, abused adults and children, the elderly, the homeless, and others in need of services" while respecting the "dignity of persons of all ages."

SHRM is the world's largest HR professional society, representing 285,000 members in more than 165 countries. For more information about the SHRM Guam Chapter, visit guam.shrm.org. ***(PR)***

OAG explains why govt still wants to fine Castle Projects

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The government plans to still impose fines on a company that owns a renovated former garment factory in Tanapag for occupying a building prior to obtaining a certificate of occupancy from the Department of Public Works.

That's how acting DPW Building Safety official Casiano M. Bostre explained it, as stated by his lawyer, assistant attorney general Matthew Pugh.

Castle Projects (CNMI) LLC had already obtained a certificate of occupancy from DPW but it was for only one of the renovated buildings.

In response to *Saipan Tribune*'s inquiry, Pugh said the fines are for violations of the Commonwealth Building Safety Code.

Fines can range from a minimum of $10 per day to a maximum of $500 per day, but cannot exceed a total amount of $10,000 or 1 percent of the total value of the project, whichever is greater.

Pugh did not give further comments.

Pugh informed the Superior Court about the government's position to fine Castle Projects during a status conference last week.

This prompted Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio to refer the case to mediation.

Castle Projects owns the former Top Fashion Garment that housed construction workers, including illegal aliens, for Imperial Pacific International LLC's resort/casino project in Garapan.

Michael Dotts, the lawyer for Castle Projects, told Saipan Tribune last week that the company had, in fact, applied for the permit before Bostre filed the case, and then quickly obtained the permit.

For these reasons, Dotts said, there should not be any fine, but they will see what the government has to say when they go to mediation.

Bostre filed a court action early this year against Castle Projects for allegedly housing a number of construction workers at the renovated building despite two notices of violation issued by DPW.

Dotts earlier disclosed that the U.S. government allowed Castle Projects to let illegal aliens live in their housing for humanitarian reasons.

Bordallo echoes calls for unity vs hatred

HAGÅTÑA, Guam—Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU) issued the following statement responding to the events at Charlottesville and the reactions from political leaders and Americans around the country:

"Racism and bigotry have no place in our society. Like many Americans in Guam and across our country, I was appalled by the horrific displays by white supremacists and neo-Nazis in Charlottesville. The equivalency of these hate groups with those who oppose their hateful ideals is unacceptable. Those who oppose Nazis and Nazi ideals are not on the same moral standing as those they march against. These are not American values, and it is the responsibility of all leaders—and indeed all Americans—to speak out against them. Our nation is better than this; we are a country of hope, inclusion, and peace. Let us redouble our efforts to bridge the divide that has widened and strive to be a nation of freedom and tolerance." ***(PR)***

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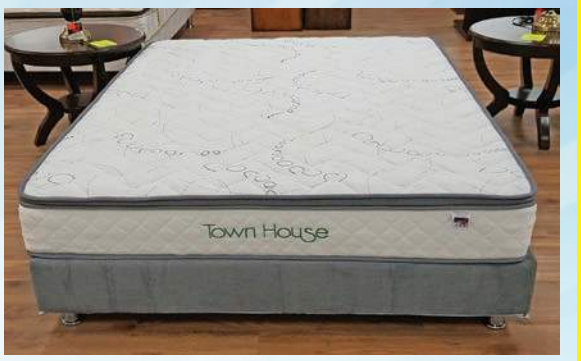

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Power outage on Middle Road tomorrow

There will be a scheduled power interruption tomorrow, Aug. 19, 2017, from 5:30am to 10:30am, to allow Commonwealth Utilities Corp. line crew to install two concrete poles along Middle Road.

Middle Road (including SRC Building, Micronesian Marine, Auto Steam, JY Car, Best Seller, McDonald's, Saipan Vegas, I Love Saipan, IT&E, Amara P1., Rhoo Loop, Docomo, and Payless Shoe Source) will be affected by Saturday's power interruption.

For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) or monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates (hnps://www.facebook.comlCommonwealthUtilities-Corporationl). *(CUC)*

UPS to pay $2M to resolve EEOC discrimination claims

CHICAGO—International shipping giant United Parcel Service, Inc. has agreed to pay $2 million to nearly 90 current and former UPS employees to resolve a nationwide disability discrimination lawsuit filed in 2009 by the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, as well as to conciliate related administrative charges. The EEOC charged that UPS violated federal law failing to provide UPS employees with disabilities reasonable accommodations that would enable them to perform their job duties. The EEOC further alleged that UPS maintained an inflexible leave policy, whereby the company fired disabled employees automatically when they reached 12 months of leave. *(PR)*

PH consular outreach in September

The Philippine Consulate General in Guam will be holding a mobile outreach on Saipan on Sept. 8 to Sept. 11 at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. It will accommodate 640 applicants who pre-registered for passport renewal.

If an individual wants to avail of one of the 640 slots available for the outreach program, they must call the office of Philippine honorary consul to the Commonwealth Glicerio Arago at 233-6293. The individual has to set up the renewal appointment with Mel Santos. *(Saipan Tribune)*

OES to host Open House today

Oleai Elementary School will be hosting an Open House today, Aug. 18, for its 3rd Grade to 5th Grade students, from 5pm to 6pm, in your child's classroom. Important information will be discussed with your child's teacher during the open house. Parents and guardians are encouraged to participate in this important event and all other school activities within the school year. *(PR)*

Class of 1987 gears up for 30-year reunion

The Marianas High School Class of 1987 will be having its 30th-year class reunion on Sept. 23. The reunion is open to any CNMI Class of 1987 graduate, regardless of which high school they graduated from. A Mass in honor of departed classmates will be held at the San Antonio Church on Sept. 23, 2017, at 4pm. The reunion will follow immediately after the Mass, from 5:30pm to 10pm, at the Surf Club (beach side) in Chalan Kanoa, the former Pacific Gardenia Sunset Bar and Grill. To purchase a reunion ticket or to get more information, send an email to cnmiclassof87@gmail.com or join the CNMI Class of '87 Facebook for updates on the reunion event and/or to request for ticket. *(PR)*

Garapan Fishing Base parking lot closed

The Garapan Fishing Base parking lot to the immediate west of the Thursday Night Market will be closed until tomorrow, Aug. 19. The Division of Agriculture will be using this area to prepare for the Agriculture Fair tomorrow, Aug. 19, 2017. The Garapan Fishing Base boat ramp will still be open for boating access. *(PR)*

Free cat adoption month

Saipan's animal welfare group, Saipan Cares for Animals, is hosting a free cat adoption month until the end of August. All cat and kitten adoptions are free until the end of the month on Aug. 31. Call Beth at 285-5448 or visit www.SaipanCaresforAnimals.com to find out more. You can also visit Saipan Cares for Animals on Facebook for directions on how to get there! *(CSA)*

NMTI to host outreach events

The Northern Marianas Technical Institute, in collaboration with governor's Youth Services, Department of Community and Cultural Affairs-Division of Youth Services, and precinct representatives, will conduct an outreach event today, Aug. 18, Friday, from 5pm to 7pm, at the Garapan Community Center (next to the Garapan basketball court) to help students learn a new trade and earn a job. Staff will be available to explain their programs and help fill out forms. For more information, call Mae Guerrero at 235-6684. *(PR)*

Notice to all Kagman farm plot permittees

The Department of Land and Natural Resource agents will be conducting scheduled visits as well as permitting inspections to all Kagman farm plots to determine whether permittees are in compliance with the rules and policies. In order to address issues with violations, DLNR has already begun issuing eviction notices to any permittee engaging in the subleasing or transferring of farm plot(s) to a corporation or partner. This includes the use of the plots to cultivate forbidden substances. Call the DLNR-Division of Agriculture if there are any questions or concerns to this notice at 256-3318/19 or 322-9834. *(PR)*

Saturday Story Time in August at AMP

Youth of all ages are invited to join the American Memorial Park on Saturdays (Aug. 19, and 26) from 2pm to 3pm for story time. During the hour, read *Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes* by Eleanor Coerr. Following the reading, everyone will be invited to make paper cranes, just like Sadako did in the story. Throughout the month, 1,000 paper cranes will be folded and sent to the Children's Peace Memorial in Hiroshima Japan. To learn more about this program or other happenings at the park, contact park ranger Brooke Nevitt at 234-7207 or 2020 or email brooke_nevitt@nps.gov. *(NPS)*

US Navy releases new input dates

The U.S. Navy will accept public comments about the Training and Testing Supplemental Environmental Impact statement for the Mariana Island Training and Testing area until Sept. 15, 2017. Comments must be postmarked or received online by Sept. 15, 2017, for consideration in the development of the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS. Comments may be submitted online at www.MITT-EIS.com or mail to: Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific Attention: MITT Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager, 258 Makapala Drive, Suite 100 Pearl Harbor, HI 96860-3134. *(PR)*

VA benefits outreach on Saipan

The U.S. Department of Veterans Benefits Administration will be visiting Saipan on Aug. 31, 2017, and will be conducting a benefits workshop/claims clinic and outreach at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. The workshop/claims clinic will be from 9:30am to 12:30pm. Veterans will also be meeting one-on-one with the benefit counselor from 12:30pm to 3:30pm. Workshop topics include VA benefits, loan guaranty, vocational rehabilitation & employment, death benefits & education benefits. Counselors will be available to answer questions and assist with the claim process. *(PR)*

What is the
COMMUNITY READINESS SURVEY (CRS)?

The Community Readiness Survey is an Evidence-Based Program* that was designed to assess the degree to which the community is willing and prepared to take action on substance use in the CNMI. The survey focused on four topics: Underage Drinking; Marijuana Use Among Youths (11-18 yrs); Prescription Drugs Misuse (12-25 yrs); and Methamphetamine (ICE).

*https://www.samhsa.govicapt/tools-learning-resources/stages-community-readiness

CRS RESULT!

SAIPAN
1. Underage Drinking - 4 Preplanning
2. Marijuana (11-18) - 4 Preplanning
3. Prescription Drug Misuse (12-25) - 1 No Awareness
4. Methamphetamine - 4 Preplanning

TINIAN
1. Underage Drinking - 3 Vague Awareness
2. Marijuana (11-18) - 4 Preplanning
3. Prescription Drug Misuse (12-25) - 1 No Awareness
4. Methamphetamine - 4 Preplanning

ROTA
1. Underage Drinking - 3 Vague Awareness
2. Marijuana (11-18) - 3 Vague Awareness
3. Prescription Drug Misuse (12-25) - 2 Denial/Resistance
4. Methamphetamine - 2 Denial/Resistance

On behalf of the CHCC: Community Guidance Center-Prevention Services Unit, we would like to extend our utmost appreciation to the individuals who participated in this survey.

Un' Dankulu na Si Yu'us Ma'ase yan Ghilisoow.

For more information please call
Community Guidance Center - Substance Abuse Prevention Services Unit.

Rota: Tel: 532-9461 Tinian: Tel: 433-6572 Saipan: Tel: 323-6560/61

This advertisement is made possible by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration with CHCC: Community Guidance Center - Substance Abuse Prevention Services Unit.

CGC-Prevention Services Unit cgc_prevention cgc_prevention

MCS reboots SAT Boot Camp

After a brief hiatus, Mount Carmel School will once again offer its SAT Boot Camp.

First offered in the fall of 2009, the six-week camp is designed to help students improve their performance on the College Board's SAT, a standardized test used for most college admissions in the United States. The boot camp program has been updated to reflect changes in the SAT.

The curriculum helps students master several skills necessary to do well on the test. These include analyzing and explaining how the test is designed and scored; learning and using effective test-taking strategies; and easing test-taking anxiety and increasing comfort and confidence by taking practice tests. Students will also review and refresh their content knowledge in English and math.

Over the years, over a hundred students have taken the boot camp, many of whom have increased their SAT scores by an average of 200 points. In some cases, students have raised their scores by almost 400 points.

Last year, the College Board redesigned the SAT to increase the number of curriculum-based questions, revise the essay section, and refine how student performance on the test is scored. In turn, the school's SAT Boot Camp has been retooled to help students prepare for the new test. In addition, the program will continue offering proctored practice tests, which have been effective at improving student focus and persistence during the test.

This year's SAT Boot Camp will run from Aug. 29 through Oct. 5, leading up to the Oct. 7 SAT, and is open to all high school students. The fee is $200 for Mount Carmel School students and $300 for those not enrolled at the school. Application forms are available at the school and online at the school's website, www.mountcarmelsaipan.com. Application forms are due by Monday, Aug. 28. For more information, call 234-6184 or email galvin.deleonguerrero@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

2ND ANNUAL
We Will Never Forget:
Field of Heroes
16th Anniversary of September 11th
This event is for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to come together in solidarity to remember those who have perished; and to honor our HEROES that responded to save the many lives during this attack and who are still battling our fight against terrorism. Each flag purchased will be to remember or honor everyday heroes, military veterans, military service members, police officers, firefighters, emergency medical technicians, disaster responders, and all other first responders.
Saipan 2016
Tinian 2016
Rota 2016
Save the dates
SAIPAN
American Memorial Park
September 10th - Posting of flags
September 11th - Freedom Walk at 5:00pm
Garapan Fishing Base to American Memorial Park
9/11 Ceremony at Field of Heroes site
September 18th - Retiring of flags beginning 8:00 am
TINIAN
Veterans Memorial Park
September 5th - Posting of flags
September 11th - 9/11 Ceremony at Field of Heroes site at 10:00 am
September 17th - Retiring of flags
ROTA
Corporal Joe G. Charfauros Jr. Rota Veterans Memorial Park
September 7th - Posting of flags
September 8th - 9/11 Ceremony at Field of Heroes site
September 22nd - Retiring of flags
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CNMI youth attend National Transportation Institute

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
From left, Michelle Quichocho of Tinian High School, Mariette Barcinas of Rota High School, Anjenette Cubangbang of Marianas High School, Evelyn Hermosilla from the CNMI Youth Affairs Office, and Ian Cataluna of Marianas High School.

Students from the CNMI attended a three-week program at the National Transportation Summer Institute at the Kentucky State University and at the National Flight Academy in Pensacola, Florida, to learn more about transportation and engineering and how they impact our society.

Funded by the Federal Highway Administration in collaboration with the CNMI Department of Public Works and close support from the CNMI Office of Youth Affairs, students Michelle Quichocho from Tinian High School, Mariette Barcinas from Rota High School, and Anjenette Cubangbang and Ian Cataluna from Marianas High School took part in projects and field trips that demonstrated engineering specializations from aerospace to software planning and maintaining systems of transportation.

According to Public Works Secretary James Ada, the program aims to encourage careers in the field of transportation and engineering.

"The students spent three weeks living on the Kentucky State University campus and then took a trip to Pensacola, Florida's National Flight Academy. We are happy to take part in preparing our youth in the field of science, technology, and engineering. We can see in our islands that transportation is crucial to our way of life and the demand is increasing. We hope that more of our youth take advantage of these programs and gain insight to bettering our infrastructure," Ada said.

Special Assistant for Youth Affairs Shelane Borja noted that the National Flight Academy Centers of Inspiration provides a holistic approach to inspiring CNMI students' interest and engaging them in order to keep them challenged and excited about pursuing a STEM degree.

"The program takes place onboard the National Flight Academy's virtual aircraft carrier *Ambition*, located on the grounds of the National Naval Aviation museum in Pensacola, Florida. Our students took part in intense real-life problems that combined the thrill of flight with critical thinking techniques. These experiences challenged them to think outside the box and apply prior knowledge of science and mathematics," Borja said.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres noted that STEM education offers students the opportunity to solve critical problems facing our community's infrastructure and think of long-term solutions.

"STEM relies on real-life scenarios, and we hope that these experiences encourage them to become advocates of these disciplines. These learning programs are far reaching and provide an in-depth look into the future of our economy and our community. I commend the Department of Public Works and the Office of Youth Affairs for their collaboration. We need to continue to encourage our youth to seek out these learning opportunities to enhance their knowledge," Torres said. ***(PR)***

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North Korea nuke conflict renews push to change Guam govt

By GRACE GARCES BORDALLO and CATHY BUSSEWITZ
ASSOCIATED PRESS

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)— The nuclear conflict with North Korea that has made Guam the target of a threatened attack has led to new calls to change the government of the Pacific island whose inhabitants are American citizens but have no say in electing the president or the use of military force.

Guam is a U.S. territory where many of its 160,000 residents have long advocated for a different form of government; they just can't agree on what they want.

Some want to become the 51st state, or at least have more say in the government. Others want independence from the U.S. Another faction wants to eliminate the heavy American military presence on an island where 7,000 troops are stationed and the main thoroughfare is called Marine Corps Drive.

The feud between President Donald Trump and North Korea has upset some residents, given their lack of voting power in presidential elections.

"I didn't vote for the president, I didn't vote for this war, and yet we're in this now," said Benjamin Cruz, speaker of the Guam Legislature.

Gov. Eddie Calvo sees the growing tension as an opportunity to highlight Guam's unusual relationship with the rest of the United States—and possibly make changes.

His office is overseeing a commission on what is known here as "decolonization." The idea is that residents will vote on whether to seek statehood, independence or become a sovereign state. Their decision would indicate the will of the people, but nothing would change without the approval of Congress.

"It's important for people like me in our community to educate people—what is our situation in terms of our American citizens who can't vote for a president who takes us to war?" Calvo said. "We follow federal laws that we had no hand in making and we have to follow these laws."

Guam's former Congressman Robert Underwood believes the spotlight shed on Guam in the latest round of nuclear threats from North Korea will be at the core of future discussions of Guam's political status.

"The issue is, the people of Guam, are they part of the American family or not?" Underwood asked.

Guam has been a U.S. territory since 1898, except when it was held by Japan for about two years during World War II.

The island has its own local government similar to the 50 states, with a governor and Legislature. Residents don't pay U.S. income taxes, but they are eligible to receive assistance from U.S. programs like welfare.

The main activity on the island is the military. Many local residents and government representatives serve in the U.S. military with pride, but others are resentful of the military's plans to expand its presence by moving thousands of U.S. Marines to Guam from Japan.

Guam's Congresswoman Madeleine Bordallo supports the buildup, saying it will expand economic opportunities in the territory. She is Guam's lone representative in Congress, but she does not get to cast a vote on the use of military force.

The strong U.S. military presence on Guam, located 2,000 miles (3,200 kilometers) southeast of Seoul, South Korea's capital, has left it the target of North Korea's threats for years.

Calvo initially supported the buildup, but he rescinded his support because of the federal government's high rate of denials for temporary foreign worker visa applications. The island wants more worker visas to help with job growth.

AP

About a hundred people gather at Chief Kepuha Park in Hagatna, Guam for a rally for peace Monday, Aug. 14, 2017.

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Last Order：8:30pm

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Dinner Buffet Location:
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(Local: AD $35/ CH $17)
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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXVII, Issue No. 164

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

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EDITORIAL

Kenya emerges: After a fraught election, the nation is on right path

Kenya appears to have worked its way through elections more or less in one piece this time, in spite of some fairly dire history of sometimes violent confrontations in the past on these occasions.

Incumbent President Uhuru Kenyatta, an Amherst graduate and the son of the father of Kenya's independence, Jomo Kenyatta, beat traditional foe Raila Odinga, a four-time candidate and the son of the older Kenyatta's traditional foe, Oginga Odinga, and six other candidates, by a convincing margin for a second five-year term.

Odinga has claimed that the election results were hacked, and thus not valid.

He did not call for violence in the streets, but did call for a work boycott on Monday.

It appears not to have been observed, which would suggest that any other efforts on his part to torpedo the elections are not likely to succeed.

John F. Kerry, U.S. secretary of state under Barack Obama and 2004 candidate for president, served as an election monitor, but also as a strong advocate for peace on the spot during Kenya's elections.

Obama, half Kenyan himself, also spoke strongly to urge Kenyans to vote and to accept the elections results without violence. Obama's plea was particularly relevant in the Kenyan political context since his father was Luo, from the same ethnic group as the principal losing candidate, Odinga.

The claims of hacking and other voting irregularities should be looked at closely by the electoral commission or the courts, as has been promised, and the inquiry's results made completely public.

Kenyatta and his party should be generous in including opposition figures in his cabinet in the wake of the elections.

Kenya, with a population of 50 million is, relatively speaking, a success story in terms of governance and economic development in Africa, even though its government has a long way to go in terms of mopping up corruption and addressing poverty.

Kenya has registered economic growth of 5 percent each year since 2013. The Chinese just built Kenya a new railroad from its principal port, Mombasa, to its capital, Nairobi.

Americans should congratulate Kenyans on the occasion of the conduct of these apparently successful, peaceful elections.

The United States should also encourage Kenya to employ its resources to concentrate on improving the lot of its growing population, permitting it to withdraw itself from the 26-year-old, endless conflict in Somalia to its north while retaining general U.S. support.

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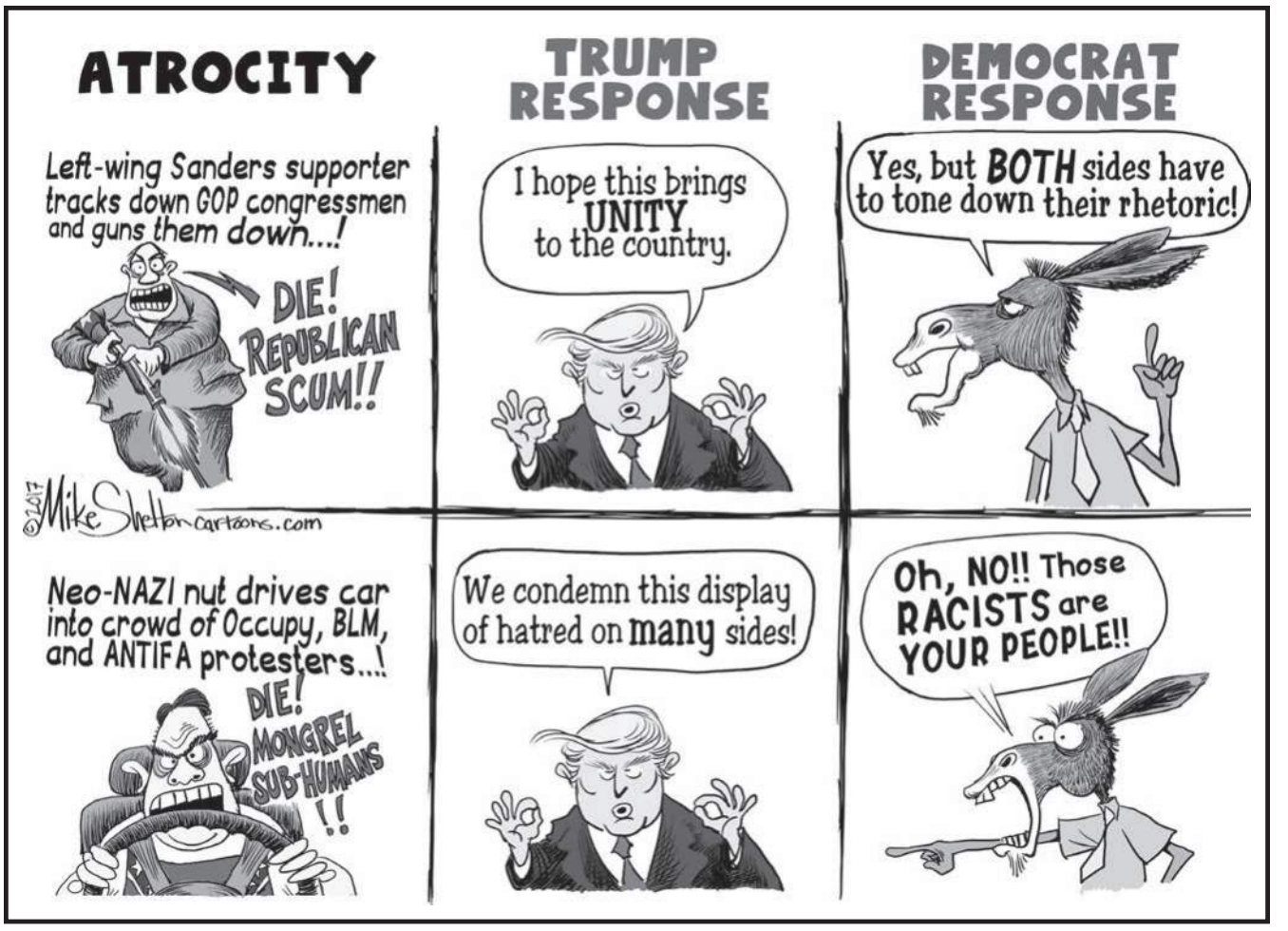
ATROCITY
TRUMP RESPONSE
DEMOCRAT RESPONSE
Left-wing Sanders supporter tracks down GOP congressmen and guns them down...!
DIE! REPUBLICAN SCUM!!
I hope this brings UNITY to the country.
Yes, but BOTH sides have to tone down their rhetoric!
©2017 MikeSheltonCartoons.com
Neo-NAZI nut drives car into crowd of Occupy, BLM, and ANTIFA protesters...!
DIE! MONGREL SUB-HUMANS !!
We condemn this display of hatred on many sides!
Oh, NO!! Those RACISTS are YOUR PEOPLE!!

Trump presidency bullied by Trump's pulpit

By MARTIN SCHRAM
Tribune News Service

Martin Schram, an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service*, is a veteran Washington journalist, author and TV documentary executive. Readers may send him email at martin.schram@gmail.com.*

Standing in the glittery gold and pink marbled lobby of his Manhattan Trump Tower late Tuesday afternoon, President Donald Trump spoke to America in unplanned remarks that may have been as historic as any formal address any president ever gave in the White House Oval Office.

Speaking boldly and with unmistakable clarity, Trump left no doubt about what he was really thinking. But what made his message so historic was that what he was thinking turned out to be reprehensible. So unacceptable, indeed, that his off-the-cuff rant may someday be viewed as the beginning of the premature end of the Trump presidency.

What was bugging Trump on Tuesday turned out to be the same thing that had been bugging him Saturday. As you may remember, the Ku Klux Klan, neo-Nazis and alt-right racists marched in Charlottesville, Va., to oppose the removal of a statue of the Confederacy's Gen. Robert E. Lee. They clashed with others protesting their racism, resulting in bashing, bloodshed, injury and one death when a Nazi wannabe drove a car into a crowd. And Trump's reaction, typically, was to see no difference between those on the right—whom he didn't even name—and those on the left, who were just protesting these white supremacists.

Trump's initial comments Saturday set off howls of protests, including from his own Republican Party. It got so bad that, on Monday, Trump yielded to the GOP pressure and actually condemned by name the Ku Klux Klan and neo-Nazis.

But Trump's feigned contrition lasted just one day. On Tuesday, while his top advisers watched from the sidelines, expecting The Boss would be only making infrastructure news, Trump erupted yet again when a reporter asked about Charlottesville.

Trump spewed, ranted and raged that the KKK, neo-Nazis, alt-right and white supremacists were being mistreated, misunderstood and scapegoated by the "fake" news media. "There is blame on both sides"—and good people on both sides, Trump claimed.

It's a race-politics game Trump has long played. In the 2016 Louisiana Republican presidential primary, Trump refused to deplore former KKK grand wizard David Duke or reject his endorsement, pretending he didn't even know who Duke was. Trump just wanted to make sure he got the white racist vote. This week, Duke and other alt-right racists again tweeted their thanks to The Donald for his even-handed treatment of bigots and those who protest them.

Trump's controversial outbursts helped get him elected but have failed him since inauguration. His presidency has been disastrously bullied by his own pulpit.

Most importantly, he has ignited a firestorm within what is only nominally his own Republican Party. GOP leaders, who have mainly been trying to remain standing while their spines turned to jelly, finally exploded in rage after their president returned to equating the KKK, neo-Nazis and the alt-right with those who have the guts to protests such racists. By Wednesday afternoon, scores of Republicans had rebuked their president.

House Speaker Paul Ryan tweeted: "We must be clear. White supremacy is repulsive. This bigotry is counter to all this country stands for. There can be no moral ambiguity."

Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., tweeted: "Mr. President, you can't allow #WhiteSupremacists to share only part of blame."

Now this from the GOP business elites: Trump was forced to disband a White House advisory panel of business execs after eight of them (mostly Republicans) quit to protest Trump's Charlottesville blurtations.

For half a year, the Grand Old Party—rewarded with control of the White House, Senate and House—has proven itself an unmitigated failure at governance. The GOP hasn't enacted a single major policy accomplishment. Trump, meanwhile, has been bizarre to fellow Republicans—as when he praised the House health bill one day, then called it "mean" the next and then finally called Senate Republicans inept because they wouldn't pass that "mean" House bill.

But now—for the first time—the GOP's timid leaders, prodded by their disgusted rank-and-file, may be showing signs of rebelling against the soulless, self-centered president who cannot even bring himself to condemn the Klan and neo-Nazis—and mean it!

Can a presidential ouster happen short of impeachment and conviction? Constitutionally, yes, but practically, no. The 25th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution says the vice president and a majority of the Cabinet can recommend a president be removed from office if he or she is "unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office." Then two-thirds of the Senate and House can confirm that decision. But that simply isn't going to happen.

If fed-up Republicans join with Democrats, however, they could combine to prevent a president from impacting any policy legislatively. Thus an isolated president could just sit and serve out the remainder of a term with little impact—which could happen if Trump persists in his tantrums.

A true Republican revolution could be just one more Trump outrage away.

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The final run

By ED STEPHENS
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.

Summertime is a season of travel and activity. And for this very reason it's also the season to heed some wisdom from winter.

One late December afternoon in upstate New York, back when I was a newbie skier, my father and I were shoving off for our last run down the mountain.

"Be extra careful when you're making your final run," Dad said. "That's when a lot of people get hurt."

I took the advice to heart, even though it made me revise my plans. After all, I had intended to attack the slope with a last dash of reckless abandon. But on that final run I noticed Dad leading by example. He was taking a very leisurely run down the mountain with gentle, swooping turns.

The sun was setting, a cold wind was stirring, and the warmth of the lodge beckoned at the bottom of the mountain. The other skiers zoomed by us on their way to the lodge.

We at last finished the run. We took off our skis, walked into the lodge for hot chocolate, and I felt like I had been given a great secret. After all, Dad was an expert skier, so if we were going slow when everybody else was going fast there was certainly a good reason for it.

Of course, we were too late to get any seats near the fireplace. Those were already taken up by the faster skiers. The guy with the best seat had a fresh cast on his leg. Some of his pals were signing it with a magic marker.

It didn't take long to accumulate anecdotal evidence that backed up Dad's wisdom. Whether playing sports, in military training, or out in the working world, I noticed that the homestretch of something was often the time when somebody got hurt.

Even if I try to account for fatigue and other obvious factors, the "final run" seems to operate by its own logic. Trouble is, none of us can see that logic, but it's up to us how we want to deal with it.

There's no need to be somber about it. It's just something that bears watching.

The notion of not pushing things too far has some ancient fans. Lao Tzu, a Chinese sage, wrote this about 2,500 years ago (translation by Derek Lin): "Holding a cup and overfilling it cannot be as good as stopping short."

That is, by the way, metaphorical wisdom, not bartending advice.

Modern notions of efficiency often reject such wisdom, especially when it comes to money. There are, after all, a lot of beady eyes squinting through thick eyeglasses at detailed spreadsheets. In these domains the specter of letting some of the conceptual glass remain empty is "unoptimal." The buffer zone of unfilled glass is taken away. As a consequence, there is a lot of hidden risk in many things, and the name of the game is to shift the risk onto other parties.

Fortunately, a sage of contemporary times, Nassim Nicholas Taleb, has addressed such things with great insight. Regular readers of my column are already aware of Taleb's various books. I won't bother listing them this time around. But I can't resist poking you in the chest with the slobbery end of my cigar and noting that if you want to know how the world works, or at least that part of it that involves risks, Taleb is the man to follow.

If you're wondering exactly which parts of the world involve risk, well, I think I've got a handle on that. Let me consult my list. Ah, here we go: Every component of the world involves risk.

With this in mind, as summertime enters the homestretch we can exercise a little bit of extra caution before we catch that last wave, drive that final 100 miles on a road trip, or jump on that zip line for a last thrill before hitting happy hour.

Yes, thanks to the "final run" theory I'll leave the glass a little bit empty on those counts.

Dad would agree. Furthermore, it will save me the trouble of buying a magic marker.

With Guam saved by Trump, now is the time to fly the flag in the Pacific

By DENNIS LENNOX
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Dennis Lennox writes about politics. He worked for U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz in the territories during the 2016 primaries and caucuses before endorsing Trump. Follow @dennislennox on Twitter.

President Donald J. Trump saved Guam.

Literally.

Trump's tough talk forced North Korean dictator Kim Jong Un to publicly abandon plans to bomb Guam when it became clear that the United States would treat an attack against the largely forgotten U.S. territory the same as an attack against the 50 states.

Needless to say, those living in Guam can breathe a giant sigh of relief.

While the chattering class predictably won't give Trump credit where credit is due, the fact that Trump and Defense Secretary James Mattis' tough talk worked should be applauded.

When asked if Guam is part of the United States, Mattis said without hesitation, "Yeah, it sure is." The retired Marine Corps general went on to say any launch by Kim against Guam would constitute an act of war.

"You don't shoot at people in this world unless you want to bear the consequences," the Defense secretary told reporters.

For too long the milquetoast diplomats responsible for the North Korea brief, in both Republican and Democratic presidential administrations, have failed to stop Kim and his father, Kim Jong Il.

As Guam's Republican governor, Eddie Calvo told Trump in a telephone call between the two leaders: "I have never felt more safe or confident with you at the helm."

Calvo was also quoted as saying that only "a punch to the nose" could stop North Korea from being "a bully."

That isn't to say Guam and Washington can relax and assume all is well now that Kim has publicly backed down.

North Korea's despotic regime remains a major threat not just to Guam and American interests throughout the Asia-Pacific region, but also to U.S. allies Japan and South Korea.

Then there is China, which is aggressively expanding its influence both in disputed waters of the South China Sea and on smaller islands near Guam and the other U.S. territories of American Samoa and the Northern Mariana Islands.

Chinese expansion in the Pacific also comes at a time when Beijing has pledged over $60 billion in so-called development aid to African countries and established its first overseas military base in Djibouti on the strategically critical Gulf of Aden. Closer to home, China's state-owned oil company bought one of North America's largest refineries on St. Croix in the U.S. Virgin Islands. Beijing also convinced Panama to sever diplomatic relations with Taiwan just as a Chinese state-owned company announced it wants 1,200 football fields worth of land owned by the Panama Canal Authority—land that was once American until then-President Jimmy Carter surrendered the Panama Canal Zone.

The only answer to the challenges posed by North Korea and China in the Pacific, once known as the American Lake due to America's sway in the region, is to fly the Stars and Stripes.

Washington should start in Guam.

The U.S. territory, with its Navy and Air Force bases, has long been a key military asset, but the island has much more to offer.

As America in Asia, Guam is uniquely positioned to be a vital economic asset. It could even host key offices of the State Department, U.S. Trade Representative and U.S. Agency for International Development—giving a much-needed boost to diplomatic, trade and foreign aid efforts across the Asia-Pacific region.

SANCTIONS!
BY JOE "BUT WE'RE STILL FRIENDS, RIGHT?" FOURNIER
VLADIMIR MAKES A CALL
SO... DONALD. ANYTHING YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE WITH ME?
LISTEN, VLADIMIR, I KNOW YOU'RE UPSET, BUT...
UPSET? WHY WOULD I BE UPSET? OH, YOU MEAN BECAUSE THE GUY I "DIDN'T HELP GET ELECTED" JUST SIGNED THE RUSSIA SANCTIONS BILL?
WELL, YEAH, TECHNICALLY I SIGNED IT, BUT, BUT, BUT...
BUT WHAT?
BUT MY HEART WASN'T IN IT!
joe@joefournierstudios.com

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Strange silence

The stillness and deafening silence seem to have descended everywhere. Is it the effect of that extraordinarily hot summer month? Or are we all waiting to get ready when they are ready to tell us "get ready" for nukes from NK?

Is there an ominous message in this? I can't pin it down but the scary beat goes on something of a towering shadow—from the figment of our imagination—lurking up north.

The state of Aloha is ready for war with NK. It isn't ready to repeat the Pearl Harbor experience; you know, the surprise attack. We think we are ready. Not!

Trump said he supports the Marianas 1,000 percent as though the threat has been rehearsed successfully many times before. There's nothing reassuring about it, sir. We're going to be inhaling radiation that kills in several days. Moreover, we're situated over 8,000 miles from the Oval Office.

After seeing an island next to Bikini blown out of the water by an A-bomb in 1944, what's to prevent the saber-rattling NK kid from doing the same here? Isn't insecurity his tool of grandiosity?

The Navy has presented a schedule of events on the environmental studies of venues planned for military facilities here. The issues are too technical and delivered with military jargon precision. It needs to be translated into simple everyday English.

In other words, legislators must retain, through the Legislative Bureau, a group of experts to dissect information presented them. It's the only way to make sense of what's coming down the pike.

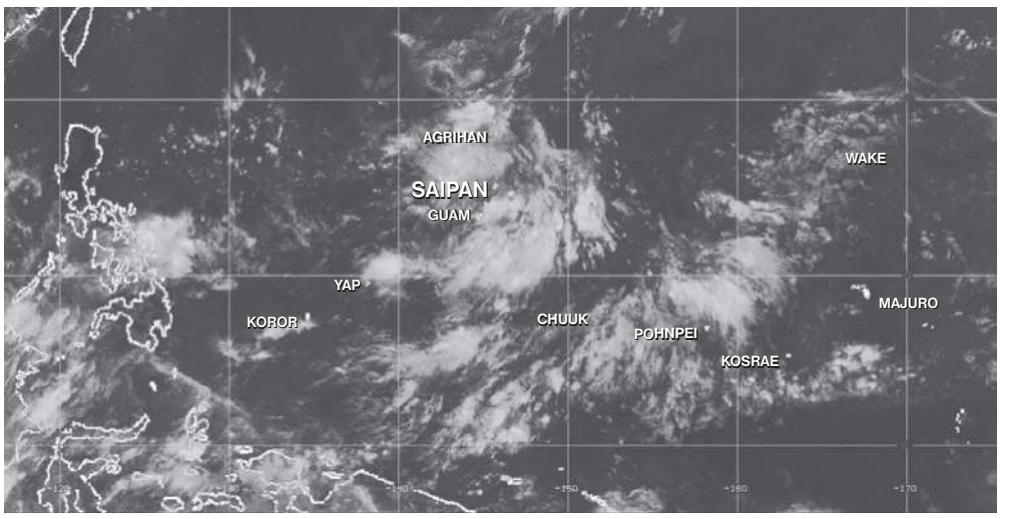
John S. DelRosario Jr.
As Gonno, Saipan

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy. Isolated showers.	Partly cloudy. Isolated showers.	Partly cloudy. Isolated showers.
▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲90° ▼79°	▲90° ▼79°	▲90° ▼79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 5:18 AM, THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 2017
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Latest model guidance continues to show scattered showers over the Marianas Thursday night through Friday night. However, based on latest satellite data, it appears likely that scattered showers will move in to Saipan and Tinian this morning and drift south-southwestward through the day, affecting Rota and Guam late this afternoon. Therefore, the only changes to the inherited forecast was to add scattered showers to Tinian and Saipan forecast for today and this evening and to Guam and Rota this afternoon. Latest GFS run also shows the possibility of a brief period of scattered showers on Saturday as well, but decided to hold off on that for now. Either way, an unsettled pattern is expected to continue through Saturday night, with a drier pattern returning to the Marianas by Sunday.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	85° / 78°
Palau	Thunderstorms	84° / 77°
Yap	Thunderstorms	86° / 78°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	87° / 79°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	85° / 77°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	85° / 77°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	84° / 79°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Showers	57° / 48°
Beijing	Showers	84° / 72°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	90° / 82°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	88° / 75°
London	Windy	68° / 54°
Los Angeles	Sunny	78° / 64°
Manila	Thunderstorms	90° / 79°
Melbourne	Showers	54° / 37°
Miami	Thunderstorms	88° / 82°
New York	Mostly Sunny	81° / 75°
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	90° / 77°
Paris	Showers	75° / 54°
Busan	Thunderstorms	82° / 75°
Rome	Mostly Sunny	93° / 72°
Salem	Thunderstorms	93° / 75°
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	65° / 56°
Seoul	Thunderstorms	82° / 72°
Tokyo	Thunderstorms	84° / 73°
Washington, DC	Thunderstorms	90° / 75°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
3:12 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.90
10:44 AM	LOW TIDE	-0.23
5:52 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.75
11:00 PM	LOW TIDE	1.13

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:02 AM	6:38 PM
Saturday	6:03 AM	6:38 PM
Sunday	6:03 AM	6:37 PM
Monday	6:03 AM	6:36 PM
Tuesday	6:03 AM	6:36 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	2:11 AM	3:24 PM	-
Saturday	3:10 AM	4:23 PM	-
Sunday	4:11 AM	5:20 PM	-
Monday	5:12 AM	6:12 PM	-
Tuesday	6:11 AM	7:01 PM	-

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SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 18, 2017

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	1:35am	5:20am	2, 3, 4
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
TW308	2:35am	6:20am	6, 7
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
LJ652	4:45am	8:35am	1, 4, 5, 7
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily
ZE584	4:00pm	8:05pm	1, 3, 5
ZE584	4:35pm	8:15pm	2, 4, 6, 7
ZE582	4:45pm	8:35pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	5:20am	8:00am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:00am	10:25am	1
JD396	4:50pm	8:15pm	4

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:15pm	7:00pm	Daily

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:00am	1, 2, 4, 6via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	3, 5, 7 via GUM
PR1572	4:40am	6:45am	1, 4
UA6391/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	10:40pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA6390/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA6390/193	2:20pm	10:40pm	2 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	4:40am	8:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
UA6391/159	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

ZE583	9:10am	2:40pm	1, 3, 5
7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
ZE583	10:05am	3:35pm	2, 4, 6, 7
ZE581	10:10am	3:55pm	Daily
TW307	7:05pm	12:35am+1	1, 2, 3
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
TW307	8:05pm	1:35am+1	5, 6
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
LJ651	10:00pm	3:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:10am	3:30pm	4
JD395	10:05pm	5:30am+1	7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:20am	2:50pm	Daily

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR1571	9:20pm	3:40am+1	3, 7
UA192/6395	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
PR110/UA6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA184/6395	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UO42	4:50pm	12:05am+1	2, 6
HX076	5:20pm	12:30am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:05pm	1:10am+1	1
UO42	6:10pm	1:00am+1	3
UO42	6:10pm	1:10am+1	4
UO42	6:40pm	2:00am+1	7
UA116/6395	10:45pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, ZE Eastar Jet, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

Bordallo, PDSC offers free notary for war claims applicants

HAGÅTÑA, Guam—Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo and the Guam Public Defender Service Corp. announced Wednesday that PDSC will provide free notary public services for those completing applications under the Guam War Claims Program.

A notary public from the PDSC will be available at Bordallo's office in Hagåtña twice a month to provide the service free of charge to applicants.

Those seeking the service can visit the office on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month from 9am to 11am.

The Guam War Claims Program is authorized by the World War II Loyalty Recognition Act that became law on Dec. 23, 2016. The deadline for submitting an application is June 20, 2018. All completed applications must be notarized before being submitted to the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission.

"We are happy to partner with [Delegate] Bordallo's office to help provide notary service to Guam's War claimants," said Stephen P. Hattori, executive director of the Guam PDSC.

PDSC currently provides notary service of legal documents the corporation prepares for its indigent clients who are either unable to afford the nominal cost of a notary public or are unable to avail of such services.

"Knowing that our *man'åmko* have waited decades to file war claims, we believe that allowing our notaries to assist in completing the process is the least we can do for the people of Guam," Hattori added.

"Our *man'åmko* have been waiting far too long to receive their war reparations, and we want to make this process as easy and accessible as possible," said Bordallo. "My office has distributed hundreds of applications to *man'åmko* in our community and their family members in the past three months. I commend Guam's Public Defender Service Corp. for making its notaries available to applicants and partnering with my office to provide the service free of charge. PDCS notaries will be available at my district office in Hagåtña twice a month and we hope that our survivors and decedents' families will utilize this service prior to submitting war claims applications to the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission." ***(PR)***

Mazda recalls CX-7, CX-9 and MazdA6 over Takata airbags

By DAVID A. WOOD
CARCOMPLAINTS.COM

Mazda is recalling nearly 80,000 vehicles to replace passenger-side Takata airbag inflators, a recall that supersedes a confusing January 2017 recall.

The January recall saw dealers replacing Takata airbag inflators with the same inflators that contained ammonium nitrate, the explosive chemical responsible for blowing apart the metal inflators and sending shrapnel into occupants.

The inflators have injured at least 180 people and killed at least 19 worldwide, and Mazda says this newest recall will use replacement airbag inflators that do not contain ammonium nitrate. Mazda hopes this will be the final recall to replace the passenger-side inflators.

As with previous recalls, Mazda says certain vehicles are recalled in certain "zones" of the country.

In Zone A, the 2012 Mazda CX-7, CX-9 and Mazda6 are recalled if they were sold, or ever registered in the following states: Alabama, California, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, Texas, Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands (Saipan) and the U.S. Virgin Islands (Zone A).

Additionally, unless included in Zone A, Mazda is recalling 2009 CX-7, CX-9 and Mazda6 vehicles sold, or ever registered in the Zone B states: Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia.

Then to add to the confusion, unless included in Zone A or Zone B above, Mazda is recalling the 2007-2008 CX-7 and CX-9 sold, or ever registered in the following states: Alaska, Colorado, Connecticut, Idaho, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, New Hampshire, New York, North Dakota, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

Mazda started mailing recall notices on Aug. 15 with instructions to get the vehicles to dealerships for repairs.

2 convenience centers eyed for disposal of household garbage

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality is looking at creating two more convenience disposal centers—a place where garbage is kept temporarily before being brought to the main garbage transfer station in Lower Base and then to Saipan's landfill in Marpi.

According to BECQ administrator Frank Rabauliman, illegal dumping continues to be an issue on the island and a possible reason may be that the original transfer station in Lower Base is not as accessible to those living in the southern part of the island as opposed to those in the northern part of Saipan.

Rabauliman said that two convenience garbage disposal centers could be established—one in Koblerville and another in Kagman.

The idea is to motivate people to bring their garbage to the most accessible center based on their location, instead of just dumping their garbage on the side of the street or dumping it on another person's garbage can.

The convenience center will separate the recyclables and hazardous materials from municipal waste and handle the transfer of the waste to the transfer station in Lower Base and into the landfill.

According to Rabauliman, the convenience center will only be open to municipal waste or household garbage. Private garbage collecting companies will not be allowed to unload their waste in any of the two convenience centers.

As of now, BECQ is just awaiting authorization and confirmation on the areas intended for the convenience centers. Rabauliman said a request for proposal has already been sent out. If all goes to plan, the centers could be established in the next six to eight months. "That's just being optimistic," he said.

DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Caller Box 10007, Gualo Rai Center, Saipan MP 96950
TEL. NO. 664-8300 FAX NO. 664-8315

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
As of August 18, 2017

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE DCRM OFFICE:

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1. Auto Marine, Inc.	08/11/2017 SPI-2017-X-087	Drydock	South Seaplane Ramp, Lower Base, Saipan	Ports & Industrial	Approved-08/15/2017
2. Marianas Visitors Authority	08/14/2017 SSm-2017-X-088	New Marianas Music Fest	Chalan Kanoa, Saipan	Shoreline	Approved-08/15/2017
3. Ji Li Corporation dba Xinbada Diving Club	08/15/2017 SLR-2017-X-083	New SCUBA Diving Tour Operation	Garapan, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review*
4. Big Boyz Marine II	7/31/2017 SSLR-2017-X-082	Renewal Scuba Dive Operation	Susupe, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
5. Aqua Del Rey Saipan, Inc.	07/21/2017 SLRm-2000-X-101	Renewal SCUBA Dive Tour Operation	Garapan, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved - 08/07/2017
6. Ji Li Corporation dba Xinbada Snorkeling	08/07/2017 SLR-2017-X-089	New SCUBA Dive Tour Operation	Garapan, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved-08/08/2017
7. Pacific Subsea Saipan, Inc.	08/07/2017 SLR-2017-X-084	In-Water Vessel Maintenance	Lower Base, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved-08/15/2017
8. Saipan Crewboats, Inc.	08/04/2017 SPI-2017-X-085	Drydock Saipan	Able Dock, Lower Base,	Ports & Industrial	Approved-08/15/2017
9. Li Yong Hong Corporation	07/28/2017 SLRm-2017-X-080	Renewal Snorkeling Tour Operation	San Antonio, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved-08/08/2017
10. Commonwealth Marine Sports Leisure Corporation	08/01/2017 SLRm-99-X-064	Renewal Scuba Dive Tour Operation	All Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved-08/07/2017
11. BSEA, Inc. dba BSEA Sun Sports	8/01/2017 SLRm-93-X-106	Renewal Parasailing Operation	Tanapag, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved-08/07/2017
12. Mark Arnold Santos dba Macs Marine	8/02/2017 SLRm-2007-X-092	Renewal Banana Boat Operation	Tanapag, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved-08/07/2017
13. Thank You Saipan Diving	08/15/2017 SLR-2017-X-090	New Scuba Dive Operation	Garapan, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review*
14. Ben & Ki Watersports, LLC	08/03/2017 SS-LRm-2008-X-066	Renewal Jet Ski Operation	Garapan, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved-08/10/2017
15. Ben & Ki Watersports, LLC	08/03/2017 SLRm-99-X-69	Marine Sports Boat Transfer	Garapan, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved-08/10/2017
16. World Corporation dba Saipan World Resort	08/03/2017 SLRm-99-X-68	Renewal Non-Motorized Marine Sports	Susupe, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved-08/15/2017
17. Selfish Saipan, Inc.	08/04/2017 S/TLRm-2009-X-061	Renewal Scuba Dive Tour Operation	Saipan & Tinian	Lagoon & Reef	Approved-08/08/2017
18. Seahorse Tour	08/04/2017 SLRm-98-X-20	Renewal Parasailing Operation	Mañagaha Island	Lagoon & Reef	Approved-08/10/2017
19. Tropical Leisure Sports	08/08/2017 SLRm-93-X-176	Renewal Parasailing Operation	Garapan, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved-08/15/2017
20. Tropical Leisure Sports	08/08/2017 SS/LR-94-X-116	Renewal Jet Ski Operation	Garapan, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved-08/15/2017
21. Asia Marine Sports	08/11/2017 SLRm-2010-X-045	Renewal Banana Boat Operation	Garapan, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved-08/15/2017
22. Marine Tech (Saipan), Inc.	08/14/2017 SLRm-2000-X-104	Renewal Scuba Dive Operation	All dive sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved-08/15/2017
23. Big Boyz Marine Sports, Inc.	08/14/2017 SLRm-98-X-137	Renewal Banana Boat Operation	Susupe, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
24. J & K Marine Sports	08/15/2017 SLRm-94-X-135	Renewal Banana Boat Operation	Susupe, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review

NMIAC §15-10-210 of the CRM Rules and Regulations requires all permit applications to be published in a newspaper for general circulation within the CNMI within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the DCRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the DCRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APCs) and proposed amended major siting's. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local DCRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a DCRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the DCRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the DCRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the DCRM Regulations.

Business

Trump isolation growing as business panels dismantled

NEW YORK (AP)—With corporate chieftains fleeing, President Donald Trump abruptly dismantled two of his White House business councils Wednesday—an attempt to manage his increasing isolation and the continued fallout from his combative comments on racially charged violence in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Trump announced the action via tweet, although only after one of the panels had already agreed to disband earlier in the day. A growing number of business leaders on the councils had openly criticized his remarks laying blame for the violence at a white supremacists rally on "both sides."

"Rather than putting pressure on the businesspeople of the Manufacturing Council & Strategy & Policy Forum, I am ending both. Thank you all!" Trump tweeted from New York.

The decision came as the White House tried to manage the repercussions from Trump's defiant remarks a day earlier. Presidential advisers hunkered down, offering no public defense while privately expressing frustration with his comments.

Some Republicans and scores of Democrats denounced Trump's statements as putting white supremacists on equal moral footing with counter-protesters in Charlottesville and called for an apology. Most of those Republicans, including congressional leaders, did not specifically criticize the president.

Leaders of the four major branches of the military—who typically avoid political debate—have all issued statements decrying racism and extremism.

Trump himself stayed out of sight, tweeting occasionally about a primary in Alabama, the stock market and, once, his campaign slogan. Midday, he traveled from New York to his golf club in New Jersey for the night.

The president told associates he was pleased with how his press conference went, saying he believed he had effectively stood up to the media, according to three people familiar with the conversations who demanded anonymity because they were not authorized to speak publicly about them.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB17-DPS-195

SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 6, 2017 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF A CLASS "F" VEHICLE (PICK-UP TRUCK WITH TOWING CAPACITY) FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATION MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISION OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDSIN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

/S/ ROBERT A. GUERRERO
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB17-DPW/TSD-199

SUBMISSION DATE: AUGUST 24, 2017 TIME: 10:30 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF SEVEN (7) DESKTOP COMPUTER SYSTEMS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBAKCS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ JAMES A. ADA
SECRETARY OF PUBLIC WORKS

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR OF P&S

COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION
PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
RFP17-CHCC/HR-21

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 1, 2017 TIME: 1:00 PM
BID OPENING DATE: SEPTEMBER 1, 2017 TIME: 1:30 PM

"PETITION FOR EMPLOYMENT BASED VISA CLASSIFICATION, HUMAN RESOURCE, COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION"

COPIES OF THE RFQ PACKET MAY BE PICKED –UP AT CHCC PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY DIVISION-MEDICAL SUPPLY STORAGE FACILITY LOWER BASE SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ PRISCILLA M. IAKOPO
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB17-DPS-196

SUBMISSION DATE: AUGUST 24, 2017 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF ELEVEN (11) CLASS "I" VEHICLES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

/S/ ROBERT A. GUERRERO
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB17-OGM/BIP-201

SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 6, 2017 TIME: 11:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF A 4X4 (4 DOORS) PICK UP TRUCK W/TOWING CAPACITY FOR THE OFFICE OF GRANTS MANAGEMENT & STATE CLEARINGHOUSE, BREADFRUIT INITIATIVE PROGRAM"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATION MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISION OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ EPHIPANIO E. CABRERA JR.
ADMINISTRATOR, OFFFICE OF GRANTS

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)
RFQ-17-CHCC/CGC-01

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: AUGUST 23, 2017 TIME: 1:00 PM
BID OPENING DATE: AUGUST 23, 2017 TIME: 1:30 PM

"SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER (SUD) TREATMENT SERVICES, COMMUNITY GUIDANCE CENTER (CGC), COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION"

COPIES OF THE RFQ PACKET MAY BE PICKED –UP AT CHCC PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY DIVISION-MEDICAL SUPPLY STORAGE FACILITY LOWER BASE SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ PRISCILLA M. IAKOPO
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport
P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950-1055
Tel.: (670) 236-6500/1 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Commonwealth Ports Authority hereby gives notice that a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Tuesday, August 22, 2017, at 9:30 a.m. in the CPA Conference Room located in the Captain George Fleming Building at the Port of Saipan on Saipan. The following items are on the agenda for the above-referenced meeting:

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes (May 30, 2017 and June 13, 2017)

II. PUBLIC COMMENT(S)
III. CORRESPONDENCES
IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS
1. Financial Affairs Committee
2. Airport Facilities Committee
3. Seaport Facilities Committee
4. Personnel Affairs Committee

V. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT
VI. OLD BUSINESS
1. Echo Dock Request for Proposal

VII. NEW BUSINESS
1. Presentation by Robert Christian/Star Marianas
2. Adoption of Concession Regulations
3. Adoption of Personnel Rules and Regulations
4. Personnel Matters:
   a. Adoption of Position Descriptions:
      i. Port Managers
      ii. Procurement Clerk
      iii. ARFF Maintenance
   b. Policy: Two-Year Employment Contracts
   c. Employment Contract - Comptroller
5. Hong Kong Airlines – Request for Office Lease extension
6. Tinian Terminal Improvement Project Change Order No. 6 and Supplemental Funding Request

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION
• Legal Counsel Report: Legal matters/Litigation

IX. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS
X. ADJOURNMENT
All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items.

/s/ ROMAN T. TUDELA for Jose R. Lifoifoi
Chairman, Board of Directors

August 17, 2017

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS
FOR
AIRPORT MASTER PLANNING and AGIS SURVEY SERVICES
FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
PROJECT NO. CPA-SA-009-16

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested Consultants for Airport Master Planning and AGIS Survey Services for the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

These services are being funded by the Federal Aviation Administration and CPA. CPA's selection process is intended to be in compliance with FAA Advisory Circular 150/5100-14E (or latest publication) entitled "Architectural, Engineering and Planning Consultant Services for Airport Grant Projects" and in accordance with CPA's Procurement Rules and Regulations and procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 40-50-202 Architect-Engineer Design and Construction Management Services.

The Request for Qualification (RFQ) Package is available at CPA's Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the arrival terminal. No fee is required for obtaining the RFQ package. Questions regarding this request for RFQ statements must be submitted in writing to Ms. Wendi L. Prater, Executive Assistant/Project Manager, faxed to (670) 664-3533 and/or emailed to wprater@cpa.gov.mp by no later than Friday, August 18, 2017, 4:30 p.m., local time.

At a minimum, the statements of professional qualification will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Capability to perform all or most aspects of the project, such as preliminary design, construction management, bidding services, Airport Layout Plan revisions, environmental evaluations – such as documented category exclusion, financial analysis, preliminary civil design, mechanical and electrical engineering. Demonstrated ability to implement quality control measures, identify problems completely, and implement corrective action promptly in order to meet contract schedule requirements and AIP standards. **(WEIGHT 20)**
2. Key personnel's professional background and successful relevant experience in airport projects comparable to the proposed projects. **(WEIGHT 20)**
3. Demonstrated ability to meet Airport Improvement Program AGIS standards, NGS requirements, Airport Master Plan standards, project schedules or deadlines, and to complete projects without having major cost escalations, overruns, or disputed claims; and demonstrated ability to meet Airport Improvement Program. **(WEIGHT 20)**
4. Quality of projects previously undertaken that are comparable to proposed projects. **(WEIGHT 10)**
5. Familiarity with the project and demonstrated understanding of the projects potential problems and the owner's special concerns. **(WEIGHT 10)**
6. Capability to furnish a qualified and experienced team for all phases of the Airport Master Planning Services and AGIS Project; and knowledgeable of specific issues at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. (WEIGHT 10)
7. Demonstrated skills, knowledge, experience, and capabilities in AGIS; ability to implement an AGIS Obstruction Survey and Airport Airspace Analysis; ability to complete a comprehensive Airport Master Plan Update; ability to complete projects on budget and on time. **(WEIGHT 10)**

Interested Consultants are requested to submit one (1) original, four (4) copies and one (1) electronic version in .pdf on a compact disc of their statements of professional qualifications no later than **4:30 p.m., FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2017.** Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330.

Discussions may be conducted with at least three (3) of the firms regarding the agreement requirements and technical approach and selection made there from, in order of preference, of no less than three (3) firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required.

An agreement shall be negotiated with the highest qualified consulting firm or company at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the government. If a fair and reasonable price cannot be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then additional firms may be selected in order of competence and qualifications and negotiations continued until a fair and reasonable price is agreed upon.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

Send information to:
Mr. Christopher S. Tenorio
Executive Director
Commonwealth Ports Authority
P.O. Box 501055
Saipan, MP 96950-1055

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

Date: July 25, 2017

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP NO.: RFP17-DCCA/CCDF-200

SUBMISSION: SEPTEMBER 19, 2017 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"TO IMPLEMENT YEAR 2 OF PILOT CNMI QUALITY RATING AND IMPROVEMENT SYSTEMS (1RIS) FOR THE DCCA CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT FUND PROGRAM'S CHILD CARE PROVIDERS"

THE SCOPE OF WORK FOR THIS PROJECT WILL BE AVAILABLE ON AFTER AUGUST 11, 2017 AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENSION DRIVE, CAPITOL HILL REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD AT THE CHILD CARE DEVELOPMENT FUND OFFICE BUILDING NO. 1347 SAIPAN ON **SEPTEMBER 05, 2017 AT 10:00 A.M., LOCAL TIME.**

ANY QUESTIONS SHALL BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO MS. MARIBEL S.D. LOSTE, PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR VIA E-MAIL AT ccdf.maribelloste@gmail.com OR BY FAX TO (670) 664-2547 NO LATER THAN THE **CLOSE OF BUSINESS SEPTEMBER 06, 2017**.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS NMIAC 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES AND KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

/S/ PARKER YOBEI
ACTING SECRETARY OF DCCA

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

Nation

Charlottesville victim's mother urges 'righteous action'

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. (AP)—The mother of the young woman mowed down while protesting a white nationalist rally in Charlottesville urged mourners at a memorial service Wednesday to "make my child's death worthwhile" by confronting injustice the way she did.

"They tried to kill my child to shut her up. Well, guess what? You just magnified her," said Susan Bro, receiving a standing ovation from the hundreds who packed a downtown theater to remember 32-year-old Heather Heyer.

Heyer's death Saturday—and President Donald Trump's insistence that "both sides" bear responsibility for the violence—continued to reverberate across the country, triggering fury among many Americans and soul-searching about the state of race relations in the U.S. The uproar has accelerated efforts in many cities to remove symbols of the Confederacy.

Heyer was eulogized as a woman with a powerful sense of fairness. The mourners, many of them wearing purple, her favorite color, applauded as her mother urged them to channel their anger not into violence but into "righteous action."

State troopers were stationed on the surrounding streets, but the white nationalists who had vowed to show up were nowhere to be seen among the residents, clergy and tourists outside the Paramount Theater, just blocks from where Heyer died.

Heyer, a white legal assistant from Charlottesville, was killed and 19 others were injured Saturday when a car plowed into counterprotesters who had taken to the streets to decry what was believed to be the country's biggest gathering of white nationalists in at least a decade.

The hundreds of white nationalists—including neo-Nazis, skinheads and Ku Klux Klan members—had descended on Charlottesville after the city decided to remove a monument to Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee.

The driver of the car, James Alex Fields Jr., a 20-year-old Ohio man described as an admirer of Adolf Hitler and Nazi Germany, was arrested and charged with murder and other offenses.

On Wednesday night, hundreds of people gathered on the University of Virginia campus for a candlelight vigil against hate and violence. They sang several spirituals and observed a moment of silence for the three lives lost during Saturday's violence.

In other developments:

■ Trump tweeted for the first time about Heyer, calling her "beautiful and incredible" and a "truly special young woman." The White House did not respond to questions about whether the president had contacted Heyer's family.

■ Baltimore dismantled four Confederacy-related monuments under cover of darkness, including statues of Lee and Gen. Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson, while the mayor of Birmingham, Alabama, had the city's 52-foot (15-meter) Confederate memorial obelisk covered over with wooden panels.

■ The number of protesters arrested in connection with the toppling of a Confederate statue Monday night in Durham, North Carolina, climbed to four.

■ Citing security concerns, the University of Florida denied a request by a group headed by white nationalist Richard Spencer to rent space on campus for a September event.

Jody and Brent Dahlseng, of Rockford, Illinois, said they were traveling to Virginia Beach for vacation and made a special stop. They stood outside the theater with purple ties around their shoulders.

"This country can do better than this," Brent Dahlseng said.

Charlottesville resident Danielle Notari, who was also outside the theater, spoke through tears.

"We wanted to come say goodbye and pay our respects," she said, her arms wrapped around her young daughter.

Heyer's family members and friends said her death would only inspire them to fight harder for justice.

"This is not the end of Heather's legacy," Bro said.

Speaking firmly, Bro urged those who wanted to honor her daughter to "find in your heart that small spark of accountability."

Donald Trump's die-hard supporters show no signs of straying

NEW YORK (AP)—They wash their hands of neo-Nazis and wag their fingers at leftists. They denounce a press corps they see as biased and controversies they view as manufactured. But in the frenzied blame game over the deadly violence at a rally of white supremacists, Donald Trump's loyal base is happy to absolve the president himself.

Even as Trump's zig-zag response to the weekend bloodshed in Charlottesville, Virginia, has brought criticism from some Republican lawmakers, many men and women who helped put him in office remain unmoved by the latest uproar.

"He has done nothing to turn me away from him," said Patricia Aleeyah Robinson, of Toledo, Ohio.

Robinson is black and her support of Trump has put her at odds with many in her life, costing her friendships and straining family relationships.

But the 63-year-old retired truck driver sees the controversy over Trump's response to Charlottesville as being driven by those seeking to disrupt his agenda and push backers like her away. She said she knows he pays no deference to racists and feels he is the only president who has ever spoken directly to blacks. She admires his refusal to sugarcoat his beliefs.

Three hundred miles south in a Charleston, West Virginia, shopping mall, Joyce Ash took a moment to ponder Trump after buying a dress Wednesday to wear to the funeral for her husband of 33 years, who died of pancreatic cancer.

The 71-year-old woman summoned nothing but support for the political novice who led her to ditch her lifelong support of Democrats. She recalled sitting up all Election Night to watch Trump clinch the win, and said nothing since made her reconsider her vote.

"Let the president do his job instead of trying to take him out every time you turn around," Ash implored. She didn't follow the back-and-forth over Trump's statements on Charlottesville but saw no reason to question him: "I believe in Donald Trump, I really do. I believe that if they would just give this man a chance, the economy, everything will start going better."

Though images of Nazi flags and men carrying torches sickened many Americans, the president's most ardent champions saw no reason any of that should change their feelings for Trump.

"You know why it doesn't bother me? Because he is everybody's president whether you like him or don't like him. Everything he does, he's doing it for our country," said Patsy Jarman, a 70-year-old retired factory worker in New Bern, North Carolina. "And if you don't like being here, you need to leave."

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES CREDIT UNION, Plaintiff, : CIVIL ACTION NO 05-382

-v-

MARIANO S. NAPUTI, Defendant.

FOURTEENTH AMDENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE OIS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on November 3, 2006, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property: Lot No. 002 G 334, situated in Kagman II, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 929 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 002 G 08, the original of which was recorded May 14, 1990, as document No. 90-1905, at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, September 1, 2017, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 26th day of July, 2017:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOW 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9538

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

THE FINANCIAL & INSURANCE SERVICES GROUP, INC., Plaintiff, : CIVIL ACTION NO. 09-0338

-v-

RAMON P. AGULTO and DALIA R. AGULTO, Defendants.

ELEVENTH AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the court in this matter on June 16, 2010, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidders, on the terms of conditions set forth herein below, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot 001 G 32. Situated in Kagman, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 G 02, the original of which was recorded March 20, 1986, as Document No. 86-0513, at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan, and also recorded on February 16, 1989, as Document No. 89-511, at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan, the description therein being incorporated herein by this reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, September 1, 2017, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 26th day of July, 2017:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOW 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9538

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

THE FINANCIAL & INSURANCE SERVICES GROUP, INC., Plaintiff, : CIVIL ACTION NO. 09-0458

-v-

DONALD C. CAMACHO, Defendant.

NINTH AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court is this matter on May 4, 2011, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth here in below, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property: Lot 001 C 60 (formerly part of Lot 001 C 56, which was part of Lot 001 C 26, which was part of original Lot 001 C 05, T.D. 697), situated in San Roque Village, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, as more particularly described on Drawing/ Cadastral Plat No. 001 C 12, the original of which was recorded 27 August 1999 as Document No. 99-2037 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, September 1, 2017, at the hour of 1:30 p.m.., at the Law Office of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The Sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 26th day of July, 2017:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-17-018

Supply and Delivery of Water and Wastewater Annual Materials

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified vendors for the Supply and Delivery of Water & Wastewater Division Annual Materials for Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

CUC may award a contract to more than one firm for the materials based on bids for "Commodity Groups".

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked ***"CUC-IFB-17-018, Supply & Delivery of Water & Wastewater Division Annual Materials",*** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 06, 2017** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and

Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

All responses to this IFB shall take into account any and all taxes which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract.

The IFB does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the bid under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Prospective Bidders must comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered Prospective Bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on August 22, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Administrator- via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Geoffrey Ada, CUC Water-Wastewater, Inventory Technician – via email address geoffrey.ada@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant-via email address marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, JR.
Purchasing Administrator

Asia

SKorea looks to jumpstart diplomacy in NKorea standoff

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—In an effort to jumpstart diplomacy, South Korean President Moon Jae-in said Thursday he would consider sending a special envoy to North Korea for talks if the North stops its missile and nuclear tests.

He also declared, amid fears in South Korea that threats from President Donald Trump to unleash "fire and fury" on Pyongyang could lead to real fighting, that there would be no second war on the Korean Peninsula.

"The people worked together to rebuild the country from the Korean War, and we cannot lose everything again because of a war," Moon said in a nationally televised news conference. "I can confidently say there will not be a war again on the Korean Peninsula."

Moon's comments follow a spike in animosity generated by North Korea's warning that it might send missiles into waters near the U.S. territory of Guam, and Trump's warlike language. Both Koreas and the United States have signaled in recent days, however, a willingness to avert a deepening crisis, with each suggesting a path toward negotiations.

Trump tweeted early Wednesday that North Korean leader Kim Jong Un had "made a very wise and well reasoned decision," amid indications North Korea doesn't immediately plan to fire multiple missiles toward Guam.

"The alternative would have been both catastrophic and unacceptable!" Trump wrote.

Next week's start of annual U.S.-South Korean military exercises that enrage the North each year could make diplomacy even more difficult.

AP

South Korean President Moon Jae-in speaks during a press conference marking his first 100 days in office at the presidential house in Seoul Thursday, Aug. 17, 2017.

Moon said he believes dialogue with North Korea can happen when North Korea halts missile and nuclear tests.

Moon was elected in May after a near-decade of conservative rule that saw animosity deepen between the rival Koreas. Moon wants to engage the North. But his efforts have so far been met with a string of threats and missile tests as the North works to build nuclear-armed missiles that can reach the U.S. mainland.

"A dialogue between South and North Korea must resume. But we don't need to be impatient," Moon said. "I think lots of effort and time could be necessary to overcome a decade of severed ties and to reopen a dialogue."

Moon said Washington and Seoul are closely communicating over the North Korean nuclear problem and share the view that strong sanctions and pressure are needed against Pyongyang to stop its provocations and force it into negotiations to give up its nukes. Moon said he thinks Trump's belligerent words are intended to show a strong resolve for pressuring the North and don't necessarily display the willingness for military strikes.

"The United States and President Trump have already promised to sufficiently consult with South Korea and get our approval for whatever option they will take against North Korea. It's a firm agreement between South Korea and the United States," Moon said.

North Korea's threats against Guam and its advancing missile capabilities, highlighted by a pair of intercontinental ballistic missile flight tests in July, have raised security jitters among many South Korean who worry that a fully functional ICBM in Pyongyang would force the United States to rethink whether to trade New York or Washington for Seoul in the event of a war on the peninsula.

Lobbing missiles toward Guam, a major U.S. military hub in the Pacific, would be deeply provocative from the U.S. perspective. A miscalculation on either side could lead to military confrontation.

China's Xi looks to party congress to cement authority

BEIJING (AP)—In a ritual of summer, China's leaders have been holding an unofficial retreat at a beach resort ahead of a key fall Communist Party congress at which President Xi Jinping will launch his second five-year term as party chief and move to cement his status as China's most powerful leader in decades.

The absence of top leaders from state media reports is a general indication that the secretive Beidaihe retreat is underway. In a hint that leaders have gathered at the resort's quiet beaches and closely guarded guest houses, the official Xinhua News Agency last week carried an account of a meeting at the resort between party propaganda boss Liu Yunshan and a group of vacationing technical experts.

The strength of Xi's position likely means the goings-on this year on the coast east of Beijing will be even tamer than usual, analysts say.

Xi, 64, has been shoring up his authority and sidelining rivals, leaving him primed to install allies in top positions and press his agenda of tightened state control and muscular diplomacy. That appears to include a push to insert his thoughts on theoretical matters into the party constitution and further cultivate a burgeoning cult of personality that could allow him to hold on to power beyond his second term.

"The nuance this time is that there is much less 'trading' among various factions and more obsequious affirmation of the supreme leader's supremacy," said Miles Yu Maochun, an expert on Chinese politics at the U.S. Naval Academy.

At the fall party congress, Xi is expected to deliver a keynote address as a prelude to having his take on theory written into the party constitution during the event, analysts believe. If indeed the case, the move's significance would be that predecessor Hu Jintao was able to insert his theory only upon leaving office.

A government spokesman, State Council Information Office Director Jiang Jianguo, seemed to talk up that likelihood with fulsome praise for Xi's theories in recent comments to reporters.

"It is a narrative that has been mastered by the overwhelming majority of the Chinese people and become familiar to every ordinary Chinese. It has also become a force that can change the world," Jiang said. "It is only natural for us to summarize this system of thought in a more accurate and scientific way."

Jiang also sought to quash talk of a cult of personality around Xi, calling him a "modest and prudent man."

"In the face of issues, he'd like to be the student first and learn from the people," Jiang said.

The son of a famed communist elder, Xi rose through the ranks to the position of Shanghai's party leader before being promoted to the all-powerful Politburo Standing Committee in 2007.

When Xi did assume the top spot in 2012, it was as head of a reduced seven-member committee on which he had only one reliable ally, veteran Wang Qishan. He put Wang in charge of a sweeping anti-corruption crackdown that helped Xi eliminate challengers, both serving and retired, and cow potential opponents.

Xi, whose titles include head of the armed forces, has lavished attention on the military with parades and defense budget increases. But he's also led a crackdown on abuses and a push to cut 300,000 personnel from the 2.3 million-member People's Liberation Army, underscoring his ability to prevail against entrenched interests.

At the same time, Xi has added to his resume additional titles as leader of more than a half dozen special commissions overseeing areas from national security to foreign policy. In a move carrying enormous symbolic weight, Xi last year took on the mantle of "core" of the party leadership, elevating him above his peers in a manner redolent of communist China's founder, Mao Zedong.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Philippine economy grows 6.5 percent in second quarter

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Officials say the Philippine economy grew 6.5 percent in the second quarter from a year ago, boosted by strong industry, farm recovery and with the services sector rising slower but remaining the main driver of growth. Economic Planning Secretary Ernesto Pernia said Thursday the government is on track to meet at least the lower to middle range of its full-year growth target of 6.5-7.5 percent. Analysts say the economy's underlying momentum has moderated, citing softer remittances and confidence clouded by martial law in the south. The second quarter performance is below the 7.1 percent growth in the same period a year ago but slightly up from the first quarter 2017 rise of 6.4 percent. First semester growth is 6.4 percent, lower than 7.0 percent in the same period last year.

Australian court: Refugee camp in Papua New Guinea is legal

SYDNEY (AP)—Australia's highest court ruled on Thursday that the country's policy of sending asylum seekers who try to reach its shores by boat to migrant camps in Papua New Guinea is valid, despite Papua New Guinea's court ruling the practice unconstitutional. The decision by the High Court of Australia follows a ruling by Papua New Guinea's Supreme Court last year that found Australia's detention of asylum seekers on the Pacific nation's Manus Island was unconstitutional. Both Australia and Papua New Guinea have said the Manus camp will close by October, but the fate of the men living there remains in doubt. The High Court challenge to Australia's policy was launched by an Iranian asylum seeker who has been held on Manus since 2013. The court determined the policy was valid, in part because the Australian government was not constitutionally limited by any need to conform to the domestic law of another country. Australia refuses to resettle any asylum seekers who try to reach its shores by boat. Instead, the country pays Papua New Guinea and the Pacific island nation of Nauru to house them in camps condemned as draconian by human rights advocates.

World

Families wait in rain to ID lost loved ones in Sierra Leone

AP

Hawa Stevens, who claim she lost 28 family members following heavy flooding and mudslides in Regent cries as she speaks to journalists outside the Connaught hospital morgue in Sierra Leone, Freetown, Wednesday, Aug. 16 , 2017.

FREETOWN, Sierra Leone (AP)—Hawa Stevens spoke through tears of the 28 family members she lost after surging mudslides and floodwaters swept through Sierra Leone's capital, killing hundreds and leaving hundreds more missing.

"Mother, father, sisters, brothers, cousins all gone. My life has been shattered. ... Please help me God," she sobbed as she waited in a long line in the pouring rain Wednesday outside Freetown's overwhelmed mortuary to try to identify the corpses of her loved ones.

She was surrounded by hundreds of others, some wearing face masks to try to ward off the smell of death and blue hospital booties over their shoes. Many clutched photos in the desperate hope that they would be among those fortunate enough to find their loved ones and give them a proper burial.

For Stevens, the wait brought only disappointment. "I was only able to identify two of my entire family," she said in anguish.

More than 300 people were confirmed dead - a third of them children - from the devastating mudslides that struck before dawn on Monday, triggered by days of heavy rain. Red Cross officials estimated some 600 others remained missing more than 48 hours after the storm hit while most of the victims slept. Thousands of people lost their homes.

On Wednesday, crews continued the grim work of digging out bodies from the tons of mud and debris that came roaring down the hillsides onto impoverished, low-lying areas of Freetown and surrounding settlements. Many were volunteers who dug with shovels, pick axes and, at times, only their hands.

At the city's Connaught Hospital morgue, firefighters, military personnel, police and volunteers tried to help grieving survivors with the difficult process of finding their dead relatives, many too mangled and decomposed to be identified. President Ernest Bai Koroma's office has said that all unidentified corpses will be given a "dignified burial" in the coming days. He called for seven days of mourning starting Wednesday.

Amara Kallon held up photos of his 3-year-old daughter, Hawa, who had been spending her school holidays with her mother in Freetown when a wall of mud hit their home, killing them both. In one, the wide-eyed girl held a microphone as she sang; in another she was dressed in festive bright pink native garb, her hair braided with beads.

With the help of hospital porters, who used the photos to find the child's body among the hundreds at the morgue, he was able to identify her corpse.

"The present condition of my daughter is nothing good to talk about," he said. "I've spoken with other family members and we have decided to allow the government to go ahead with dignified burial process."

Mortuary officials said mass burials would begin Thursday.

Amid the chaos of rescue efforts, the government has said contingency plans were being put in place to try to stem the outbreak of diseases such as cholera.

Sierra Leone's government has pleaded for international assistance as it reels from the disaster. With rain forecast for at least the coming week, the threat of further mudslides around Freetown remained. Many poor areas of the capital are near sea level and have poor drainage systems, which makes flooding worse during the rainy season.

Freetown also is plagued by unregulated construction of large residential houses in hilltop areas. Deforestation for firewood and charcoal is another leading contributor to flooding and mudslides.

Forty-year-old Brima Mundeh, who escaped the disaster with his two children, said he feared that three missing family members were buried under the mud. Three other relatives have already been confirmed dead.

UN: 1M S. Sudan refugees now in Uganda

KAMPALA, Uganda (AP)—The number of South Sudanese refugees sheltering in Uganda has reached 1 million, the United Nations said Thursday, a grim milestone for what has become the world's fastest-growing refugee crisis.

Ugandan officials say they are overwhelmed by the flow of people fleeing South Sudan's civil war and the U.N. refugee agency urges the international community to donate more for humanitarian assistance.

An average of 1,800 South Sudanese citizens have been arriving daily in Uganda over the past 12 months, the UNHCR said in a statement. Another one million or more South Sudanese are sheltering in Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya, Congo and Central African Republic.

The number of people fleeing jumped after deadly fighting again erupted in South Sudan's capital, Juba, in July 2016.

"Recent arrivals continue to speak of barbaric violence, with armed groups reportedly burning down houses with civilians inside, people being killed in front of family members, sexual assaults of women and girls and kidnapping of boys for forced conscription," the statement said.

"With refugees still arriving in their thousands, the amount of aid we are able to deliver is increasingly falling short."

A fundraising summit hosted by Uganda in June raised only a fraction of the $2 billion that Ugandan officials have said is needed to sufficiently look after the refugees and the communities hosting them.

Most of the refugees are women and children fleeing violence, often along ethnic lines, since the world's newest country erupted into violence in December 2013.

Ugandan refugee officials have repeatedly warned the influx is straining the country's ability to be generous to the refugees, who often are given small plots of land for building temporary shelters and planting crops when they arrive.

The largest of the settlements hosting refugees from South Sudan, Bidi Bidi, is roughly 230 square kilometers (88.8 sq. miles).

The World Food Program cut food rations for some refugees amid funding shortages in June.

The U.N. says at least $674 million is needed to support South Sudanese refugees in Uganda this year, although only a fifth of that amount has been received.

Lebanon prepares for Syria's post-war construction windfall

TRIPOLI, Lebanon (AP)—The port of Tripoli in northern Lebanon wants the world to know it's ready for business.

British safety managers are training local hires to operate heavy machinery and Chinese technicians are running diagnostics on two new container cranes that tower over the harbor, just 28 kilometers (18 miles) from the Syrian border.

After six years of civil war in Syria, markets across the Middle East are anticipating a mammoth reconstruction boom that could stimulate billions of dollars in economic activity. Lebanon, as Syria's neighbor, is in prime position to capture a share of that windfall and revive its own sluggish economy.

Battles still rage in Syria's north and east, and in pockets around the capital, Damascus, but the survival of President Bashar Assad's government now appears beyond doubt.

That is introducing an element of stability into forecasts not seen since 2011, when the war broke out. The Damascus International Fair, a high-profile annual business event before the war, is to open on Thursday for the first time since war broke out, with participants from 43 countries.

The World Bank estimates the cost to rebuild Syria at $200 billion.

For Lebanon, that could be just the stimulus it needs - the tiny Mediterranean country's growth rate has hovered around 1.5 percent since 2013. And though the capital, Beirut, has grown visibly richer over the years, Tripoli and the impoverished north have lagged behind.

"Lebanon is in front of an opportunity that it needs to take very seriously," said Raya al-Hassan, a former finance minister from northern Lebanon who now directs the Tripoli Special Economic Zone project that's planned to be built adjacent to the port.

Ahmad Tamer, the port manager, estimates Syria's reconstruction will create a demand for 30 million tons of cargo capacity annually.

Syria's chief ports, Tartous and Latakia, also on the Mediterranean Sea, have a combined capacity of 10 to 15 million tons, he says. He wants Tripoli port to be ready to step in for a portion of the rest.

"We could provide up to 5 or 6 or 7 million tons," he says.

The port is nearing the completion of the first phase of an expansion project first drawn up in 2009, then revised with an eye on Syria in 2016. Capital investment has reached around $400 million, according to the port manager.

On a map, Tamer pointed to a vacant quadrant where 7/8preparations are underway to build silos to hold grain destined for regional markets.

Syria's conflict has decimated its food production, which included an average of 4.1 million tons of wheat annually before the war, according to the U.N.'s Food and Agriculture Organization.

In 2017, it managed to produce just 1.8 million tons.

Lebanon's businessmen and politicians have always maintained close relations with Syrian counterparts. Syria is among Lebanon's largest trade partners, and arguably its most reliable supplier of cheap labor. Lebanon, in exchange, is the banker to many of Syria's enterprises and its wealthy elites.

These ties give Lebanon—and Tripoli in particular—an edge over competitors vying for the Syrian market.

The city's location is also attracting foreign investment. Tripoli port signed a 25-year lease with the Emirati port operator Gulftainer in 2013, to manage and invest in the terminal.

"Our aim was to invest here in anticipation of Syria's reconstruction," said Ibrahim Hermes, the CEO of Lebanon's subsidiary of Gulftainer.

Lebanon is now a fixture on itineraries of prospective investors. Hermes said he has seen delegations arriving from Europe, Asia and especially China, to scope out trade opportunities.

Off The Wall

Man drives himself to hospital with nail stuck near his heart

AP

This photo provided by Donna Bergeson on June 25, 2017, her husband Doug Bergeson lies on a hospital bed at Aurora BayCare Medical Center in Green Bay, Wis., before a doctor removed a nail from his heart.

MILWAUKEE (AP)—A Wisconsin man who doctors say came perilously close to death after accidentally shooting a nail into his heart while working on his house calmly drove himself to the hospital and even parked his pickup truck in the lot before walking into the emergency room.

Doug Bergeson is ready to get back to work this week after surviving a June 25 ordeal that others might not have taken in such stride. Bergeson was working on framing in a fireplace at his house when his nail gun accidentally fired, sending a nail ricocheting off some wood and into his chest.

"I thought it just nicked me. I looked down. I couldn't see anything," Bergeson said Tuesday in an interview with The Associated Press. "I felt OK. I wasn't worried about the injury. I couldn't feel any pressure or blood building up."

As he tugged at his sweatshirt, the 52-year-old said he realized only about an inch of the 3½-inch nail was sticking out of his chest.

"I could see the nail moving with my heartbeat. It was kind of twitching with every heartbeat," said Bergeson, who lives near Peshtigo in northeast Wisconsin.

He was more annoyed than worried. He knew he had to go to the ER.

"I was frustrated because I knew I wasn't going to get home until late and I couldn't get anything done," Bergeson said, adding that "common sense" told him not to pull the nail out.

So he washed up, hopped in his truck and made his way to Bay Area Medical Center in Marinette, about 10 minutes away. After parking his truck and walking into the ER, Bergeson said he started to feel more pain and summoned a security guard for help.

"If you could find someone that would be great, I'm just going to sit down," he told the guard.

Still thinking he would soon be on his way home after a little medical attention, Bergeson texted his wife, Donna, to bring him a new shirt because medical staff had cut off the one he was wearing.

After X-rays were taken, Bergeson was rushed by ambulance to Aurora BayCare Medical Center in Green Bay. "I offered to drive myself, but they wouldn't let me," Bergeson said, chuckling.

Dr. Alexander Roitstein confirmed the nail hit Bergeson's heart, saying it was also 1/16 of an inch from a major artery. He said it was difficult to assess how deeply the nail penetrated, but the nail left bruising and a nail-sized hole.

He commended Bergeson for not pulling the nail out and letting doctors handle it. "It shows the great composure this gentleman had after a very bad day's experience," Roitstein said Tuesday.

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Silent song finds iTunes popularity due to special role

NEW YORK (AP)—An unusual tune has found its way onto the top 50 on the iTunes charts, alongside Ed Sheeran and Keith Urban hits. The song is completely silent. "A a a a a Very Good Song" costs 99 cents for just under 10 minutes of dead air. While the musical quality of the track is debatable, its popularity is due to its simple role: When people plug smartphones into a car, usually the first song alphabetically plays by default. "A a a a a Very Good Song" offers users several minutes of respite. The "song" is the brainchild of Samir Mezrahi, who released it last week.

German customs intercepts package with 20 snake heads

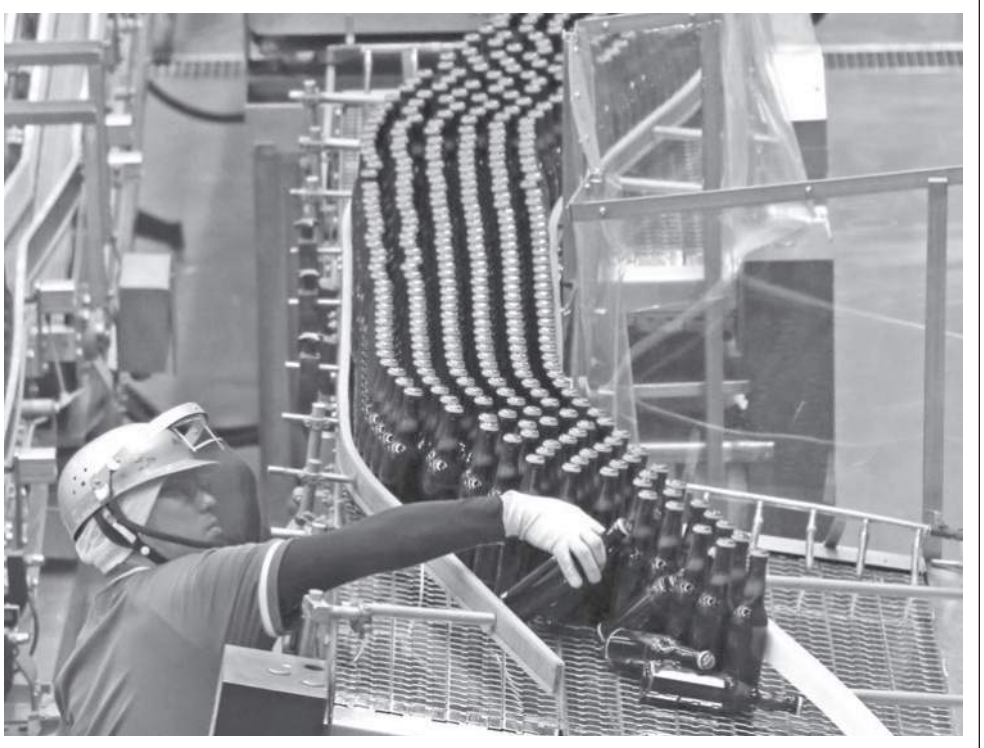
BERLIN (AP) -- German customs officers say they have found and destroyed 20 rotten snake heads found in a package that had arrived from Nigeria. A spokeswoman for Munich's main customs office said Wednesday that officers discovered the snake parts when they X-rayed a three-kilogram (6.6-pound) package last week. Marie Mueller said that when officers then opened the parcel the stench of the rotten snake heads was "simply overwhelming and unbearable." Mueller said the snake heads were immediately burned to prevent the spread of possible diseases.

Lawsuit claims rodent was baked into Chick-fil-A sandwich

PHILADELPHIA (AP) -- A lawsuit claims a suburban Philadelphia woman got an extra topping on her Chick-fil-A sandwich: a dead rodent. Ellen Manfalouti sued in Bucks County Court over the tiny rodent she claims was baked into the bottom bun of her chicken sandwich. A co-worker picked up the sandwich for her at a Langhorne restaurant in November, and the two started to eat in a conference room at the insurance agency where they work. "I felt something funny on the bottom of the bun," Manfalouti told The Philadelphia Inquirer on Monday. "I turned it over. I said to (my co-worker), 'They burned my roll really bad.'" Her co-worker, Cara Phelan, said that as soon as Manfalouti threw the sandwich on the table, "I realized it was a small rodent of some sort. I could see the whiskers and the tail."

Science & Technology

In Japan, automation is revered



AP

In this Monday, May 29, 2017 photo, an Asahi Breweries employee works on the production line at a factory in Moriya near Tokyo.

MORIYA, Japan (AP)—Thousands upon thousands of cans are filled with beer, capped and washed, wrapped into six-packs, and boxed at dizzying speeds—1,500 a minute, to be exact—on humming conveyor belts that zip and wind in a sprawling factory near Tokyo.

Nary a soul is in sight in this picture-perfect image of Japanese automation.

The machines do all the heavy lifting at this plant run by Asahi Breweries, Japan's top brewer. The human job is to make sure the machines do the work right, and to check on the quality the sensors are monitoring.

"Basically, nothing goes wrong. The lines are up and running 96 percent," said Shinichi Uno, a manager at the plant. "Although machines make things, human beings oversee the machines."

The debate over machines snatching jobs from people is muted in Japan, where birth rates have been sinking for decades, raising fears of a labor shortage. It would be hard to find a culture that celebrates robots more, evident in the popularity of companion robots for consumers, sold by the internet company SoftBank and Toyota Motor Corp, among others.

Japan, which forged a big push toward robotics starting in the 1990s, leads the world in robots per 10,000 workers in the automobile sector—1,562, compared with 1,091 in the U.S. and 1,133 in Germany, according to a White House report submitted to Congress last year. Japan was also ahead in sectors outside automobiles at 219 robots per 10,000 workers, compared with 76 for the U.S. and 147 for Germany.

One factor in Japan›s different take on automation is the "lifetime employment" system. Major Japanese companies generally retain workers, even if their abilities become outdated, and retrain them for other tasks, said Koichi Iwamoto, a senior fellow at the Research Institute of Economy, Trade and Industry.

That system is starting to fray as Japan globalizes, but it›s still largely in use, Iwamoto said.

Although data from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development show digitalization reduces demand for mid-level routine tasks—such as running assembly lines—while boosting demand for low- and high-skilled jobs, that trend has been less pronounced in Japan than in the U.S.

The OECD data, which studied shifts from 2002 to 2014, showed employment trends remained almost unchanged for Japan.

That means companies in Japan weren›t resorting as aggressively as those in the U.S. to robots to replace humans. Clerical workers, for instance, were keeping their jobs, although their jobs could be done better, in theory, by computers.

That kind of resistance to adopting digital technology for services also is reflected in how Japanese society has so far opted to keep taxis instead of shifting to online ride hailing and shuttle services.

Still, automation has progressed in Japan to the extent the nation has now entered what Iwamoto called a "reflective stage," in which "human harmony with machines" is being pursued, he said.

"Some tasks may be better performed by people, after all," said Iwamoto.

Kiyoshi Sakai, who has worked at Asahi for 29 years, recalls how, in the past, can caps had to be placed into machines by hand, a repetitive task that was hard not just on the body, but also the mind.

And so he is grateful for automation›s helping hand. Machines at the plant have become more than 50 percent smaller over the years. They are faster and more precise than three decades ago.

Gone are the days things used to go wrong all the time and human intervention was needed to get machines running properly again. Every 10 to 15 minutes, people used to have to go check on the products; there were no sensors back then.

Glitches are so few these days there is barely any reason to work up a sweat, he added with a smile.

Like many workers in Japan, Sakai doesn›t seem worried about his job disappearing. As the need for plant workers nose-dived with the advance of automation, he was promoted to the general affairs section, a common administrative department at Japanese companies.

"I remember the work being so hard. But when I think back, and it was all about delivering great beer to everyone, it makes me so proud," said Sakai, who drinks beer every day.

"I have no regrets. This is a stable job."

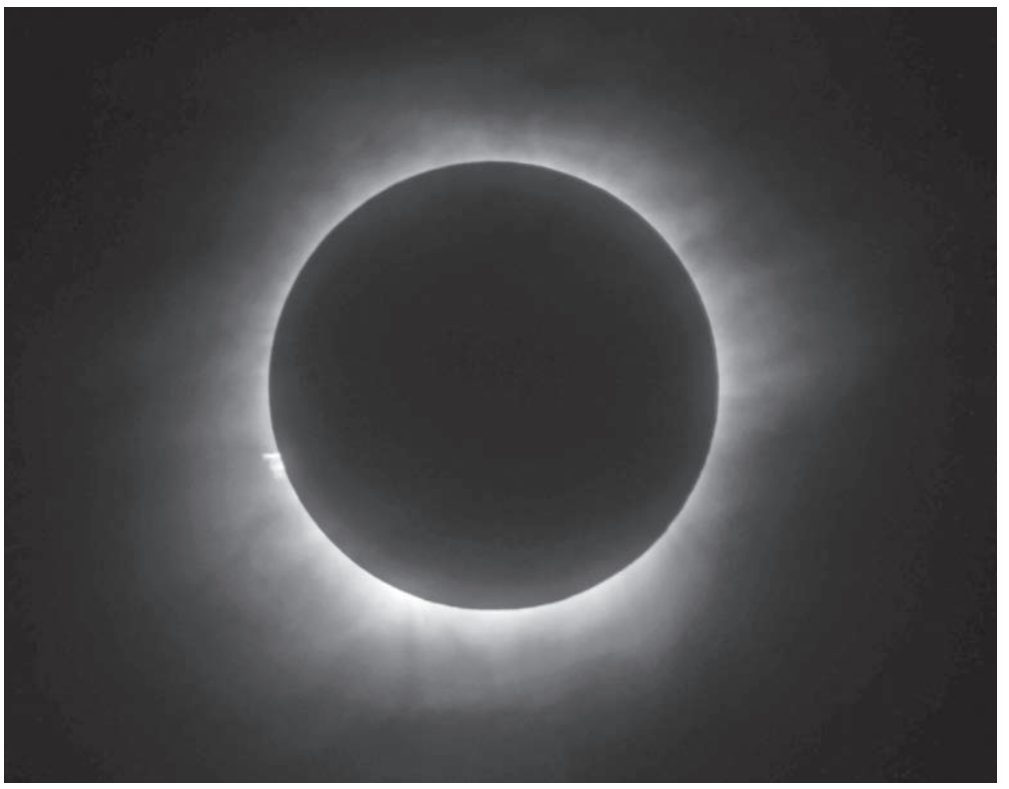
Life & Style

Can't see the solar eclipse? Tune in online or on TV

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Ronald Dantowitz has been looking forward to Monday's solar eclipse for nearly 40 years.

An astronomer who specializes in solar imaging, he's been photographing eclipses for more than three decades, and will be using 14 cameras to capture the Aug. 21 celestial event. The cameras have solar filters to capture the eclipse in its partial phases, along with custom modifications that can photograph the corona and light wavelengths that are invisible to the human eye, allowing scientists to view and study the sun's temperature and composition in a way only possible during a total eclipse, he said.

Dantowitz, who is based at Dexter Southfield School in Brookline, Massachusetts, is lending his expertise to NOVA's "Eclipse Over America," airing at 9 p.m. EDT Monday on PBS. That hourlong special, which will incorporate his images, is among extensive coverage planned on TV and online of the first solar eclipse to cross the United States in 99 years.



AP
This March 9, 2016, file photo shows a total solar eclipse in Belitung, Indonesia.

Still, witnessing totality—when the sun is completely obscured by the moon—is best done with the naked eye, not a camera, Dantowitz said, adding that protective lenses are needed to view partial phases of the eclipse.

"Enjoying totality by eye is more rewarding," he said. "There is much to see: stars during the daytime, the million-degree solar corona, and seeing the sun blacked out during the daytime.

"I have been waiting almost 40 years for this eclipse, and although I will be operating 14 cameras during totality, I will certainly take a moment to gaze at the eclipse the same way people have done for thousands of years: with wonder."

For those not in the 14 states comprising the eclipse's "path of totality," here's a look at some of the viewing opportunities online and on TV:

■ "Eclipse of the Century ": In partnership with Volvo, CNN plans two hours of livestreaming, 360-degree coverage accessible in virtual reality through Oculus and other VR headsets beginning at 1 p.m. EDT. Accompanying television coverage will include reporting from Oregon, Missouri, Tennessee and South Carolina.

■ "Eclipse Over America ": The PBS science series NOVA is planning a quick turnaround on its eclipse documentary premiering Monday. Senior executive producer Paula S. Apsell said "Eclipse Over America," which delves into why eclipses occur and what scientists can learn from them, will incorporate images of the event from across the country shot earlier that day with Dantowitz's high-tech cameras.

■ "Great American Eclipse ": The Science Channel will broadcast its live coverage from Madras, Oregon, from noon to 4 p.m. EDT, with commentary from educators and astronomers from the Lowell Observatory.

■ "The Great American Eclipse ": David Muir will anchor ABC's two hours of live coverage, with correspondents reporting from viewing parties across the country. NBC also plans live coverage, with Lester Holt hosting special reports at 1 and 2 p.m. EDT featuring correspondents reporting from Oregon, Illinois, Wyoming and South Carolina. Shepard Smith will break into typical broadcasting on Fox News Channel from noon to 4 p.m. EDT to update viewers on the eclipse and introduce footage from NASA and observatories around the country.

■ "Solar Eclipse: Through the Eyes of NASA ": NASA will offer hours of coverage online and on NASA Television beginning at noon Eastern. It plans livestreaming of the eclipse beginning at 1 p.m. EDT with images from satellites, research aircraft, high-altitude balloons and specially modified telescopes.

n "The Total Solar Eclipse": The Weather Channel is kicking off its live coverage at 6 a.m. EDT and continuing throughout the day with dispatches from seven locations along the "path of totality."

Daniel Craig, back as Bond, keeps 007 fans on edge

NEW YORK (AP)—Daniel Craig's 007-era will die another day.

After months of gossip and denials, Craig on Tuesday night confirmed to Stephen Colbert on the "Late Show" that he will indeed return for another James Bond movie. The yet-titled film is due out November 2019.

"We've just been trying to figure things out," Craig told Colbert. "I always wanted to. I needed a break."

The 49-year-old actor's stewardship of James Bond has spanned four films—and now will go for a fifth—but it has generated enough rumors to power the kind of doomsday device Bond is usually trying to stop.

Craig's time as Bond has been distinguished. His "Skyfall" remains a high-point in both dollars and quality for the 55-year-olf franchise. His last one, 2015's "Spectre," grossed $880 million worldwide. Most consider him a terrific Bond who has raised the bar for the franchise, and his official return was greeted warmly on Wednesday.

But the Craig-era, far more than its predecessors, has been characterized by a steady supply of Bond drama. Rumors and debates over who should be the next 007 have been nonstop for years, as has Craig's frequent hints about calling it quits. In 2015, he famously said he'd rather "slash my wrists" than make another Bond movie, a comment he later explained as a kind of joke from the fatigue of just completing one.

Craig

Yet even while Craig keeps donning the tux, the next-Bond handicapping has been a year-round business. Tom Hardy, Tom Hiddleston, Jack Huston and Riz Ahmed are just some of the actors who have been linked to the role—some of them for the better part of the decade.

Others have lobbied for a female 007, like Charlize Theron . Idris Elba has been a favorite for at least two years, going to back to when Bond author Anthony Horowitz suggested he was "too street" for the part.

The meetings of producer Barbara Broccoli are spied on as if they concern national security. In a way, they do. Bond is a nation-state of its own, with more than $7 billion in box-office revenues alone. And that's a heavy burden for any actor to bear.

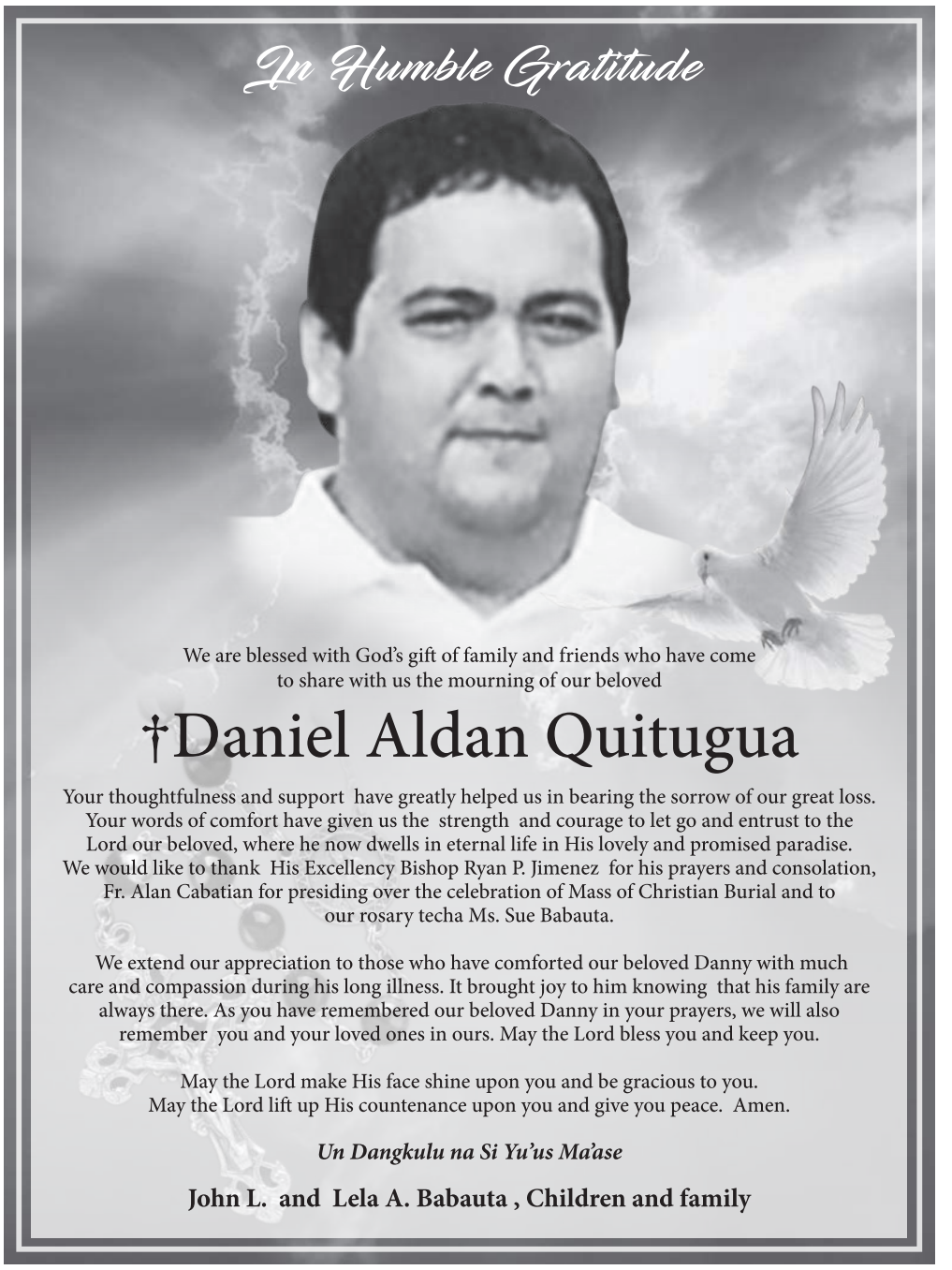
Craig's constant dance with Bond has very possibly been a smart strategy to deflect some of that pressure. He has, perhaps more than anyone since Sean Connery, eluded being completely defined by 007. Last year he did "Othello" off-Broadway with David Oyelowo. He gives a comic turn in Steven Soderbergh's "Logan Lucky," out Friday.

It's as though Craig has always wanted his future with James Bond a little up in the air—shaken, if you like—so as to avoid the stasis that could set in for a decades-old franchise now preparing its 25th films. Craig acknowledged on Colbert that his return had been settled months ago, meaning he was evading questions about Bond as recently as that morning when he told a Boston radio station that "no decision has been made."

And even as he confirmed he was returning, Craig suggested it will be his last one.

"I think this is it," he said. "I just want to go out on a high note."

Though many surely will, don't bet on it. Or to put it another way: Never say never again.



We are blessed with God's gift of family and friends who have come to share with us the mourning of our beloved

†Daniel Aldan Quitugua

Your thoughtfulness and support have greatly helped us in bearing the sorrow of our great loss. Your words of comfort have given us the strength and courage to let go and entrust to the Lord our beloved, where he now dwells in eternal life in His lovely and promised paradise. We would like to thank His Excellency Bishop Ryan P. Jimenez for his prayers and consolation, Fr. Alan Cabatian for presiding over the celebration of Mass of Christian Burial and to our rosary techa Ms. Sue Babauta.

We extend our appreciation to those who have comforted our beloved Danny with much care and compassion during his long illness. It brought joy to him knowing that his family are always there. As you have remembered our beloved Danny in your prayers, we will also remember you and your loved ones in ours. May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
May the Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace. Amen.

Un Dangkulu na Si Yu'us Ma'ase

John L. and Lela A. Babauta , Children and family

Cruise ankle break halts 'Mission: Impossible 6' production

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Production has shut down on "Mission: Impossible 6" due to star Tom Cruise's broken ankle. Paramount Pictures said Wednesday that production will go on hiatus while Cruise makes a full recovery.

Cruise broke his ankle while performing a stunt for the film during its London-based shoot.

TMZ posted a video Sunday that showed a tethered Cruise leaping to a building, hitting its side and then crawling over the top and running away. After he finished the take, Cruise is seen limping, though he was able to rappel back to the building he jumped from.

The 55-year-old actor is known for performing many of his own stunts.

The studio says that the film remains on schedule to open on July 27, 2018.

AP

In this Tuesday, May 30, 2017, file photo, Tom Cruise poses during a photocall for the French premiere of "The Mummy" in Paris, France.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

French first lady says husband's only fault is being younger

PARIS (AP)—France's first lady says President Emmanuel Macron's only fault is "being younger than me," addressing their atypical love story in a rare interview. Brigitte Macron told France's Elle magazine that if she hadn't pursued their romance, "I would have let my life pass me by." Excerpts of the interview were released Wednesday. The couple of about 20 years met when he was a student at the high school where she taught. Brigitte Macron now is 64, her husband 39—an age difference about the same as Donald and Melania Trump's. Macron is facing resistance to the president's push to formalize the first lady's role. She insisted she would not take a salary and promised her official activities would be posted online "so that the French know exactly what I'm doing."

UK police arrest brother of main suspect in model kidnapping

LONDON (AP)—British police have arrested the brother of a Polish man suspected of kidnaping a British model and threatening to sell her on the dark web. The U.K. National Crime Agency says officers arrested Michal Konrad Herba on Wednesday in central England on an arrest warrant issued by Italy. Italian police are holding his brother, Lukasz Pawel Herba, on suspicion of abducting model Chloe Ayling. Ayling says she was lured to Milan last month for a fake photo shoot, then drugged, stuffed into a suitcase and held at a rural house by criminals who threatened to auction her online. She was released after six days when Lukasz Herba took her to the British consulate in Milan. Michal Herba, who is 36, is due to appear in a London court on Thursday.

Raw feelings close to the surface at Fox over Trump remarks

NEW YORK (AP)—A Fox News Channel anchor whose reaction to President Donald Trump's comments on Charlottesville spread widely says she feels threatened but not deterred after a flood of angry responses from viewers to her words.

Kat Timpf, of the show "The Fox News Specialists," said that she's blocked part of her Twitter feed and stopped looking at emails. A day earlier, Timpf called Trump's news conference disgusting and said "I have too much eye makeup on to cry right now."

Raw feelings were close to the surface on news networks Wednesday but particularly at Fox, the favorite news network for Trump and his supporters, after the president said there was "blame on both sides" for violence at a weekend rally in Virginia organized by white nationalists. Tears flowed on the air, by CNN's Kate Bolduan as she watched a memorial service for a woman killed Saturday, by Fox's Melissa Francis as she argued on "Outnumbered" and by two guests on a "Fox & Friends segment.

Timpf's reaction to Trump was even replayed hours later by Rachel Maddow on MSNBC. That left her vulnerable to attack by Trump supporters, who seem to take particular affront when the president is criticized on Fox. Both Timpf and Eboni K. Williams, a co-host who blistered Trump in a commentary on Monday's show, inspired Twitter hashtags calling for their firing.

Wrote one critic on Twitter: "I thought I was watching MSNBC." Another suggested, "get rid of the snowflakes. Your (sic) turning into another liberal news channel." Some messages were unprintably vile; Timpf retweeted one.

Timpf, in an interview, said she was particularly chilled by one tweet that called her "a disgrace to the white race."

"I've gotten some positive things, but the negativity I've gotten is incredibly disturbing," she said. "I've seen enough to know just how disturbing the climate is right now. I'm fully aware of it and don't need any more bringing me down on a personal level."

She said that "it doesn't seem like it's too difficult to do the right thing and respond by saying 'Nazis are bad.' I can't believe that my stance is a controversial stance, or something you need to even take a stand on at all these days. It's really upsetting."

Timpf said she didn't care if she'd lost some support from Fox viewers.

Game of Thrones episode shown in Spain, Nordics by error

MADRID (AP)—HBO said Wednesday that due to an error the sixth episode of Games of Thrones' seventh season was shown a week ahead of schedule in Spain and Nordic countries.

The episode was available to subscribers in these areas early Tuesday for about an hour before being removed. The 71-minute episode is due to be officially available Aug. 21.

News of the incident was immediately reported on social media and copies of the episode were reportedly available online later.

HBO Europe said in a note it had "learned that the upcoming episode of Game of Thrones was accidentally posted for a brief time on the HBO Nordic and HBO Espana platforms.

"The error appears to have originated with a third party vendor and the episode was removed as soon as it was recognized," it added.

It said the incident wasn't connected to the recent cyber issue with HBO US.

HBO has been the victim of hacking in recent weeks in the U.S. In India, episode four of Game of Thrones was recently leaked, leading to the arrest of four suspects.

The release sparked some criticism on social networks by people annoyed by the spoiler. Others welcomed it.

Man questions his dating style after being cheated on twice

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR ABBY: I have been in two relationships. The first was with a girl a couple of years older than I am. We were together for several years before she cheated on me and dumped me. I was crushed. The next girl was a few years younger. She did the same thing after we were together a year.

What am I doing wrong? Fidelity is important to me, and they both knew it from the start. How can I avoid this in the future?

I have never been a controlling person. I was always fine with my girlfriends going out with their friends without me if I couldn't go for some reason. (That's how they ended up meeting the other guys.)

The people in lasting relationships I've seen watch each other like hawks, and never allow their significant other to be in the company of the opposite sex without them. Is this normal? Should I be like them? That seems controlling, but clearly, my "no boundaries" relationship style has backfired on me.

CHEATED ON IN NEW YORK CITY

DEAR CHEATED ON: Few things can ruin a relationship or a marriage like obsessive jealousy can. Watching one's partner "like a hawk" is stifling. It will eventually drive the person away, as you will see as you continue to observe the couples you have mentioned. Please don't try to change the person you are because YOU are just fine.

I believe that in relationships there has to be a certain amount of responsibility. If someone is mature enough to be involved romantically, that person should be willing to admit if things aren't working out. Being cheated on is painful, and being dumped is equally so. Not every relationship leads to marriage, but rather than sneak around to avoid a frank conversation, it's better to practice the Golden Rule.

DEAR ABBY: I am in a predicament. My therapist is great, but sometimes I think she shares too much. Last time I went, she was running late. When I finally got into her office, she told me the previous patient was nonverbal and had painted her nails during the session. Later in the session, she confided that years ago she had been date raped.

Abby, I am in counseling because my father raped me when I was 15 (I am now 24). Her sharing has me worried because I don't want her telling others what I say or do during counseling. Further, her story of the date rape scared me. She described a situation that is not uncommon for me to be in, and it caused something almost like a flashback in me. I think what she did was insensitive, to say the least.

I have nobody else to ask, so what should I do? I'm getting counseling for free now due to my income, and it took months to get set up with a counselor. Should I report her or accept that this was a mistake and say nothing? If I need to report her, how would I go about doing that?

CONFLICTED ABOUT IT

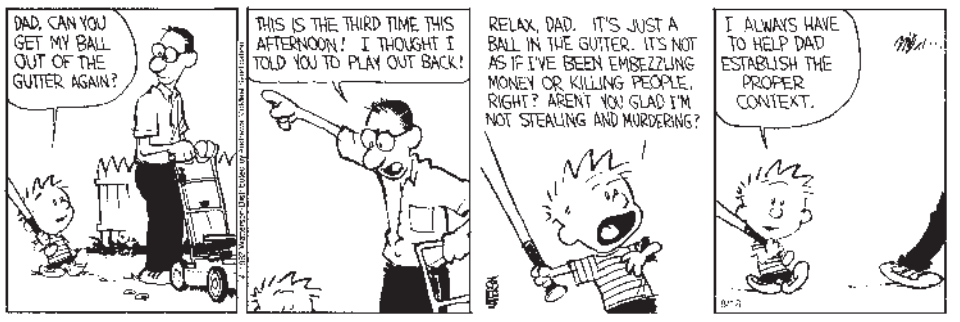
DEAR CONFLICTED: You should change therapists because it appears this one has more problems than you do. As to what agency you should report her breach of professional ethics to, contact the state organization that has licensed her to practice.

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

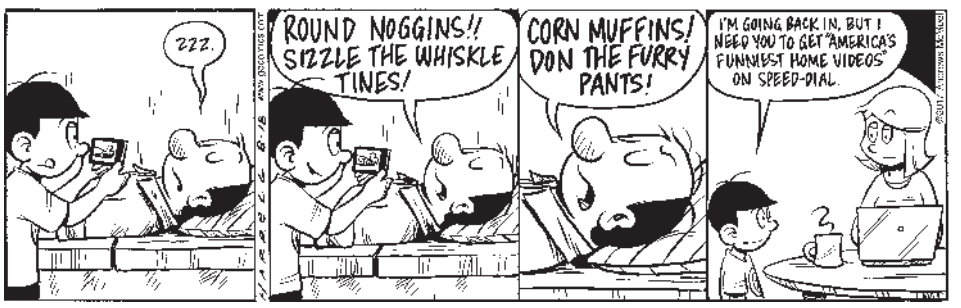

DAD, CAN YOU GET MY BALL OUT OF THE GUTTER AGAIN?
THIS IS THE THIRD TIME THIS AFTERNOON! I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU TO PLAY OUT BACK!
RELAX, DAD. IT'S JUST A BALL IN THE GUTTER. IT'S NOT AS IF I'VE BEEN EMBEZZLING MONEY OR KILLING PEOPLE, RIGHT? AREN'T YOU GLAD I'M NOT STEALING AND MURDERING?
I ALWAYS HAVE TO HELP DAD ESTABLISH THE PROPER CONTEXT.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


ZZZ.
ROUND NOGGINS!! SIZZLE THE WHISKLE TINES!
CORN MUFFINS! DON THE FURRY PANTS!
I'M GOING BACK IN, BUT I NEED YOU TO GET "AMERICA'S FUNNIEST HOME VIDEOS" ON SPEED-DIAL.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

WHAT'S UP?
BE QUIET!
HOW COME?
I'M PRACTICING MY BREATHING.
YOU'VE GOTTEN THIS FAR IN LIFE WITHOUT KNOWING HOW TO BREATHE PROPERLY?

CROSSWORD

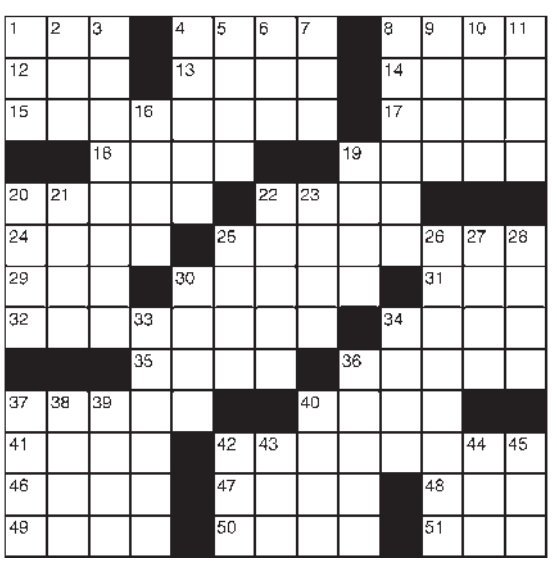
By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Bro's kin
4 Whirl
8 Commanded
12 Outback bird
13 Scoop holder
14 Wicked
15 Veteran of many battles
17 Leslie Caron film
18 Cast a ballot
19 Bridal path
20 Went on all fours
22 Ashen
24 Sets (down)
25 Rope contest
29 In the past
30 Jaunty chapeau
31 Comic Philips
32 Singing birds
34 New Mexico resort
35 Runs (into)
36 Clueless
37 "Don't Know Why" singer Jones
40 Albacore, e.g.
41 Jai —
42 Good news for bargain hunters
46 Gladys Knight's backup
47 Coconut juice
48 Sushi fish
49 Pot starter
50 Lushes
51 Chatter

DOWN
1 Stitch
2 "— Believer"
3 Land measurer
4 Composer Joplin
5 Skin opening
6 Connections
7 Born
8 Conviction
9 Rara —
10 Pickling herb
11 Writer Wiesel
16 Beer ingredient
19 Oodles
20 Hammer part
21 Sitar music
22 Engine hums
23 Mellows
25 Abound
26 Erode
27 Out of control
28 Optimistic
30 Humdrum
33 Cook slowly in liquid
34 Vocal quality
36 Pond denizens
37 Wine valley
38 Lena of "Chocolat"
39 Engrossed
40 Lean to one side
42 Evening hrs.
43 Carnival city
44 "Eureka!"
45 Wardrobe malfunction

Solution time: 25 mins.

Yesterday's answer 8-18



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Edward Norton, 48; Andy Samberg, 39; Denis Leary, 60; Robert Redford, 81.

Happy Birthday: Take your time, check out your options and let your creative imagination help you come up with the best way to approach any situation you face this year. Opportunities will be within reach. How you handle other people as well as the responsibilities you already have will determine whether you can take full advantage of what's offered. Your numbers are 6, 13, 20, 26, 31, 37, 45.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Don't make assumptions or overreact when it comes to emotional situations. Overworking, being tired and a lack of patience will cause discord with someone and could ruin your plans. Be amicable, aim to please and you'll get good results. ✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Implement alterations because you want to, not because someone is putting pressure on you. Make changes that make you feel good about the way you look. Romance will improve your attitude and your personal life. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Question emotional situations as they unfold and rely on past experiences to guide you through any confusion you face. Keeping busy and concentrating on physical gains will make you feel better as long as you don't overspend. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Let your charm lead the way. If moodiness takes over, you will ruin a chance to spend quality time with someone special. Don't overreact or make physical alterations that will leave you feeling self-conscious. Practicality should be enforced. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Don't let changes cause problems. Take part in the process and you will have better control over the outcome. An investment may not interest you now, but in time it will pay off. Don't walk away from something unique. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Give-and-take will lead to new opportunities and accomplishing things you never thought possible. Get involved with people who are heading in the same direction as you, and utilize one another's skills and services to get ahead. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Don't argue with someone who puts pressure on you. It's in your best interest to walk away. An emotional situation can affect you physically if you can't distance yourself from the fallout. Put your own needs first. ✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Make a commitment to moving forward with a long-term plan. Expressing your feelings will help you bring greater stability and security to a relationship filled with uncertainty. Be practical and honest and you will find common ground with those you love. ✪✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): You'll be tempted to overspend on a product or service that makes unrealistic promises. Protect against loss, indulgence and making changes that will affect your reputation, status or position. Don't let love lead to financial loss. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Make love or your important relationships a priority. Express your emotions and sort out any problems before they have a chance to escalate. Use your ingenuity to come up with workable solutions that fit your financial capabilities. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Show some discipline when dealing with money matters. Personal purchases will cost more than you anticipate. Hidden costs in the fine print will leave you in a vulnerable position. Look for an innovative way to get out of a bad deal. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Socialize, update your look or do something creative with someone you love. Discuss your intentions and make plans that will encourage greater stability in your life. Sharing your insights will encourage positive change. Romance is highlighted. ✪✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive, insightful and possessive. You are appealing and productive.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

						7	1	
				2	6			5
				9		6		3
			3				7	
	4	6				1	9	
	8				1			
2		4		6				
8			9	3				
	5	7						

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 8/18

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

2	1	3	4	8	6	9	5	7
4	6	5	7	1	9	8	2	3
8	7	9	3	2	5	6	4	1
9	5	1	8	4	7	3	6	2
7	3	8	5	6	2	1	9	4
6	4	2	9	3	1	7	8	5
5	8	4	1	9	3	2	7	6
3	9	6	2	7	4	5	1	8
1	2	7	6	5	8	4	3	9

Difficulty level ★★★

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

THE MEXICAN WILDERNESS Solution: 5 letters

B	S	E	N	U	D	M	A	R	G	A	Y	S	L	R
A	E	T	A	C	B	O	B	S	L	I	A	N	S	E
T	R	L	N	T	U	N	N	E	L	S	O	A	K	S
S	I	G	O	E	F	S	B	R	I	D	G	E	I	E
N	V	I	I	H	D	O	P	T	A	E	H	T	N	R
A	E	O	T	L	K	O	R	U	N	A	H	E	G	V
U	R	S	L	C	L	N	R	E	M	K	O	R	S	O
G	S	S	L	C	A	I	I	E	S	A	R	R	N	I
D	H	T	M	I	A	C	T	S	V	T	S	A	A	R
E	S	O	U	A	O	N	A	E	N	L	E	N	K	D
T	I	R	E	R	E	Ⓢ	I	N	T	O	I	E	E	R
S	F	R	T	S	T	R	Ⓜ	C	Y	A	O	S	C	A
E	P	A	N	O	I	L	T	Ⓐ	A	O	L	G	L	Z
R	U	P	S	L	O	P	E	S	Ⓓ	T	N	S	A	I
C	P	O	R	C	U	P	I	N	E	S	S	S	Y	L

© 2017 Andrews McMeel Syndication www.wonderword.com 8/18

Argillite, Bats, Bobcat, Bridge, Cacti, Canyons, Cats, Cienegas, Clay, Crested, Cuatro, Dams, Dunes, Forest, Guans, Heat, Horse, King Snake, Lagoons, Lion, Lizard, Margays, Monsoon, Oaks, Parrots, Porcupines, Pumas, Pupfish, Reservoir, Rivers, Rodents, Silver, Sinkhole, Slate, Slope, Snails, Soils, Streams, Terranes, Tunnels, Turtle, Volcanic

Yesterday's Answer: Chancellor

Jo's Jewels Collector's Edition is back by popular demand! Purchase online at www.WonderWordBooks.com or call 1-800-642-6480. (Contains 120 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

WHATZIT Solution: Match point

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

MATCH•

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www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in classified section

MGS MARIANAS GEOTECH SERVICES
Chalan Msgr. Guerrero Rd., Dandan
P.O. Box 501585, Saipan, MP 96950
(670) 234-7645

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT:
ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN

DUTIES: Perform field and laboratory testing, and soil investigations; prepare reports based on project observations and inspections; communicate with clients, project managers, and others regarding projects; and other duties as assigned by supervisor.

QUALIFICATIONS: High school diploma or GED, at least 1 year of relevant experience and/or training, computer proficient, and good oral and written communication skills.

HOURLY RATE: Determined based on qualifications (plus overtime)

Applications are available at www.marianasgeotech.com, and at the MGS office in Dandan, and must be submitted by **4:30 p.m. on September 1, 2017**, to Chelsea Borja at admin@marianasgeotech.com or at the MGS office. For more information, please contact 234-7645.

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@ Garapan next to Quick Print office.

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EMAIL: galu4258@yahoo.com
SERIOUS INQUIRIES ONLY

Job Vacancy Announcement

Strategic Gaming Solutions, Inc. has immediate job openings for the following positions:

Cook – Part time
High school graduate, GED or equivalent plus six (6) months to one (1) year work experience as a cook. Preferable one with experience in Western, Japanese, Korean and Chinese cuisines. Must be energetic with an excellent track record in hospitality and who thrives in a fast pace service environment. Able to multi-task and flexible to work days, evenings, weekends and holidays. Final interview may include a skill test. This position requires examination and clearance for Food Handlers Certificate before hire. Fook Handlers Certificate must be valid at all time during employment.
Salary Range - $7.50 to $8.00

Guest Service Officer – Full time
High school graduate, GED or equivalent plus two (2) years work experience as a guest services officer in a casino, slots or gaming club or any equivalent combination of experience, education and/or training where guest services skills are demonstrated. Able to communicate clearly and possess a good command of verbal and written English and Chinese Mandarin. Able to operate a computer and other office equipment.
Salary Range - $8.50 to $9.00

Interested applicants may pick up an application at our HR Office located within Kanoa Resort, Susupe Beach Road from Monday to Friday between the hour of 10:30AM to 5:30PM. Applications must be supported with resume, diploma or certificate and a valid photo I.D. Applicant must be eligible to work in the U.S.

Strategic Gaming Solutions, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

MARIANAS MEDICAL CENTER

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
ONE (1) RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGIST

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Operate and oversees operation of radiologic and magnetic imaging equipment to produce photographs of the body for diagnostic purposes; Prepare patients for examination by providing and explaining proper instructions; Obtain all patient data and clinical history as well as previous imaging records for comparison purpose so that Radiologist Provider will be able to correlate all data to help make accurate interpretation; Perform complete range of OB/Prenatal ultrasound imaging efficiently and effectively; Key commands and data into computer to document and specify scan sequences, adjust transmitters and receivers, or photograph certain images; Monitors video display of area being scanned and adjusts density or contrast to improve picture quality; Monitors use of radiation safety measure to comply with government regulations and to ensure safety of patients and staff; Perform Electrocardiogram (ECG) and Non-stress test (NST) procedures; Obtain and set up diagnostic radiographic equipment and execute all radiologic procedures, as requested; Perform other related duties as assigned or requested.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- Associate's Degree in Radiologic Technology;
- At least Five (5) years experience in similar field; &
- Certified/Licensed Radiologist Technologist (U.S. or Foreign is acceptable).

Interested individuals please send your resume with a list of references, photocopy of a valid photo identification card & updated police clearance to:

Polly Dlg. Masga, HR Manager
Marianas Medical Center
P.O. Box 5006 CHRB
Saipan, MP 96950
Contact no. 670-234-3926
E-mail: polly.masga@mmcsaipan.com

WE ARE AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

DELTA MANAGEMENT CORPORATION

Has an opening for an
Accounting Clerk – Auditor
Full or Part-Time

- Experience in doing auditing work for multiple businesses preferred
- Good in analytical and problem solving skills.
- Must have confidence working with numbers
- Able to work on autonomously.
- Must be organized and able to consistently meet hard deadlines.
- Strong knowledgeable of MS Excel and Word.
- Experience with QuickBooks preferred.
- Can communicate effectively in English
- Have working experience in an accounting clerk/auditor preferred.
- Great attitude
- On island reference & police clearance required.

E-mail resume to **deltaspn@pticom.com**,
No phone calls please

DELTA MANAGEMENT CORPORATION-SAIPAN

2016 GLOBAL RETAILER OF THE YEAR
Has an opening for
Customer Service Attendants & Cashiers
(No phone call please)

- We are looking for energetic people who are friendly, smiling, dependable, and desires to be a team player to work as Customer Service Representatives.
- Successful candidates must be able to demonstrate effective: People Skills. Communication Skills. English & Math Skills.
- Reliable transportation is required.
- Must be punctual.
- Must be willing to learn new skills & follow instructions.
- Must be able to work a flexible schedule; including Sundays & Holidays.
- Sales or Customer Service background helpful.
- A High School Diploma or GED required.

Applications are available on our four (4) Service Stations:
1) Shell Highway Express- Gualo Rai (beside First Hawaiian Bank)
2) Shell Puerto Rico
3) Shell San Roque
4) Shell Susupe

GREAT FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS. FLEXIBLE HOURS AND GREAT TRAINING. COME WORK WITH THE BEST

Delta Management is an Equal Opportunity Employer
(No phone call please)

Taniguchi Ruth Makio Architects

is accepting applications for the following positions:

CAD OPERATOR AND ADMINISTRATIVE MEMBERS

Experience in CAD, MS Word, Excel, and Adobe Photoshop a plus.

Submit applications and resumes at
Suite 204 M2M Building, Garapan
Telephone # 233-9656
Email: trma.cnmi@gmail.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

GENCO Systems Inc.
is looking for a Suitable Candidate to fill the position of

Construction Manager

for a Federal Government Contract in Saipan to assist with the management of Construction project(s) as owner Rep.

The candidate should have a degree in Engineering, Architecture, Construction Management or any related field with at Least 5 Years of experience Managing Federal or Commercial construction projects.
The candidate should have experience with Cost Estimation, Quality assurance, Reviewing of Project Plans/Design Reviews and knowledge of AutoCAD.

Interested candidates please send your resume by e-mail to anil.kumar@gencosystems.com or by fax at 703-234-1211
For any questions please call 703-234-5261

V-KOOL
Marianas USA LLC
is looking for

Window film installer "Film Specialist": 2 Positions (SAIPAN)

- Considerable knowledge of the industrial practices of adhesive window film installation.
- Ability to work with varieties of window films and window glass surfaces and must not afraid of height.
- Ability to work independent with minimum supervision.
- Salary: Negotiable

3A'S POLYSHINE
Home of 'V-KOOL'
is looking for

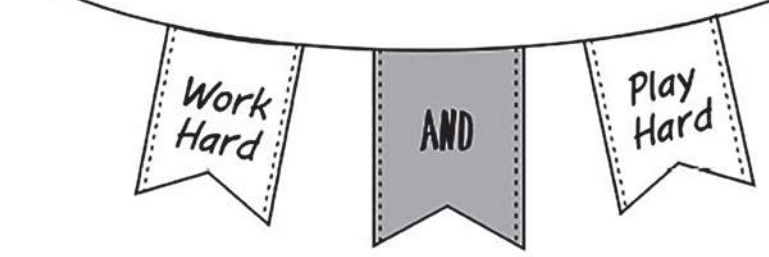
UPHOLSTERER: 2 Positions (SAIPAN)

- Considerable knowledge of the practices and methods of upholstery works, and the use of machinery and equipment for upholstering.
- Ability to make upholstery and other repairs to furniture and interior of vehicles.
- Good knowledge of upholstery materials selections.
- Salary: Negotiable
  Special consideration will be given to any individual who is eager to pursue a professional career as a Upholsterer.

Submit a typed resume or call 670-235-8938 to arrange for an interview before or on **22nd AUGUST 2017.** Interview will be conducted from 23rd August 2017 at 3A'S POLYSHINE, CK, Beach Road.

JOIN OUR TEAM!

Customer Service Representative, Barista & Cafe Attendant



Love being part of a team? We're looking for energetic, fun, organized individuals who love awesome food!
If you like to move fast, are friendly, and quick to learn, then we'd love to see your application.

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Bread. The way it *ought* to be.

Offers Competitive Salary and Benefits.

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Triple J is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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Visit us at: Make-A-Wish Guam
590 South Marine Corps Drive. ITC Bldg, Suite 109 I Tamuning, GU 9691303507 I Tel: (670) 483-9474 I Email: info@guam.wish.org I www.guam.wish.org

CABRAS MARINE CORPORATION

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Position: Assistant Port Engineer

Primary Duties & Responsibilities
- Ensures that all vessels exceed the minimum standards for the USCG and all Federal, State, and local safety standards.
- Evaluates operation of marine equipment.
- Maintain a comprehensive preventative maintenance program for all equipment
- Maintains and coordinates repair of marine machinery and equipment for installation on vessels.
- Inspects marine equipment and machinery in order to draw up work requests and job specifications.
- Reviews work requests, and compare them with previous work completed on Vessels in order to ensure that costs are economically sound.
- Prepares technical reports for use by engineering, marine operations, and upper management.
- Procures materials needed to repair marine equipment and machinery.
- Acts as liaisons between vessels' Captains and Engineers in order to ensure that schedules and budgets are maintained, and that vessels are operated safely and efficiently.
- Checks, tests, and maintains automatic controls and alarm systems.
- Maintains accurate records of engineering department activities, including expense records and details of equipment maintenance and repairs.
- Schedules machine overhauls and the servicing of electrical, heating, ventilation, refrigeration, water, and sewage systems.
- Supervises other engineers, maintenance personnel and crewmembers, and trains them for routine and emergency duties.
- Maintains all equipment to manufacturer's specifications.
- Performs other duties as assigned.

Key Technical Skills & Knowledge
Engineering and Technology — Knowledge of the practical application of engineering science and technology. This includes applying principles, techniques, procedures, and equipment to the design and production of various goods and services. **Mechanical —** Knowledge of machines and tools, including their designs, uses, repair, and maintenance. **Mathematics —** Knowledge of arithmetic, algebra, geometry, calculus, statistics, and their applications. **Physics —** Knowledge and prediction of physical principles, laws, their interrelationships, and applications to understanding fluid, material, and atmospheric dynamics, and mechanical, electrical, atomic and sub-atomic structures and processes. **Design —** Knowledge of design techniques, tools, and principles involved in production of precision technical plans, blueprints, drawings, and models. **Critical Thinking —** Using logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions or approaches to problems. **Active Listening —** Giving full attention to what other people are saying, taking time to understand the points being made, asking questions as appropriate, and not interrupting at inappropriate times. **Deductive Reasoning —** The ability to apply general rules to specific problems to produce answers that make sense.

Minimum Requirements
- Minimum of a High School Diploma/GED required.
- A minimum of 5-years sailing experience in engineering capacity or equivalent experience in Port Engineering or Engineering Management shore side
- Strong background interfacing with USCG and Class personnel and requirements
- Must understand all Federal, State, and local safety standards.
- Ability to read, write and speak English fluently.
- Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite (Outlook, Excel, Word)
- Able and willing to develop advanced technology and computer skills, proven team-player, strong communication skills, self-motivator, able to travel as necessary, high mechanical aptitude.
- Must understand vessel drawings and blue prints.
- Must be willing and available for duty at such hours, day or night as may be required in order to maintain continuous operations.
- Must pass a Physical Exam and Drug and Alcohol Test
- Must be able to obtain a TWIC Card
- Must be able to obtain access on U. S. Naval Base
- Must submit Original Police & Court Clearance within 30 days
- TB Test (within one year)

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:
- Education: Bachelor's degree (strongly prefer Maritime Academy graduate)
- Experience: 3 years in Port Engineering capacity
- Skills/Software: ABS Nautical Systems
- Licenses/Certifications: DDE 4000 or higher license
- Traits: Mechanical technician capacity, involvement in trade associations

Working Conditions
The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly exposed to fumes or airborne particles. The employee is frequently exposed to wet and/or humid conditions; moving mechanical parts; high, precarious places; and outside weather conditions. The employee is occasionally exposed to toxic or caustic chemicals, extreme heat, and risk of electrical shock. The noise level in the work environment is usually very loud. Protective clothing may be worn.

Physical Demands
The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Work is performed approximately twenty-five percent of the time in an office setting. Approximately seventy-five percent of the time will be required to visit and/or ride vessels or the industrial sites. Work involves surveys of shipboard equipment and systems and shipboard working conditions as well as shipboard assessments of industrial and ship's force work progress. Must be in good health and without impairments which would preclude the ability to climb vertical ladders and work from elevated work surfaces, embark and disembark marine vessels, enter confined spaces, exposure to high temperature and/or high noise-level areas. Must be sufficiently computer literate with demonstrable ability to use word processing, electronic spreadsheets, presentation graphics, e-mail, and other software products routinely used by type desk and maintenance management personnel in the performance of their duties. Ability to travel domestically and internationally.

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Red Sox rally to beat Cardinals, 5-4

BOSTON (AP)—Mookie Betts lined a two-run double off the left-field wall with two outs in the ninth inning, capping a three-run rally that lifted the Boston Red Sox over the St. Louis Cardinals 5-4 on Wednesday.

Xander Bogaerts hit a solo homer for the AL East-leading Red Sox, who won for the 12th time in 14 games and maintained their 4 1/2-game lead over the second-place New York Yankees.

Kolten Wong had three hits, including an RBI single in St. Louis' four-run second inning. It was just the third loss in 11 games for the Cardinals, who were swept in the two-game series, their first visit to Fenway Park since losing the 2013 World Series.

Trevor Rosenthal gave up Bogaerts' homer into the Green Monster seats in the ninth. Zach Duke (0-1) struck out a batter and walked one before John Brebbia gave up Betts' hit.

Craig Kimbrel (5-0) pitched one hitless inning for the win.

AP

Boston Red Sox's Mookie Betts, center, is surrounded by teammates as they celebrate after his walk-off two-run double during the ninth inning of a baseball game against the St. Louis Cardinals in Boston, Wednesday, Aug. 16, 2017. The Red Sox won 5-4.

Marlins 8, Giants 1

In Miami, Giancarlo Stanton's homer streak ended, but he got two hits and helped Miami beat San Francisco.

Stanton had homered in a team-record six consecutive games and leads the majors with 44. The major league record for the longest home run streak is eight games.

Matt Cain (3-10) fell to 0-9 in his past 13 starts.

Jose Urena (11-5) limited the Giants to an unearned run in five innings.

Rangers 12, Tigers 6

In Arlington, Texas, Elvis Andrus had the go-ahead home run among his four RBIs, Cole Hamels won again despite a shaky outing and Texas swept a three-game series from Detroit.

Ian Kinsler led off the game with a homer for Detroit, then after taking his position at second base in the bottom of the first received an on-field handshake from the longtime umpire who he said should get another job.

A day after Kinsler's harsh and extended criticism of Angel Hernandez, the umpire was working second base for the series finale. Kinsler was ejected from the opener Monday when questioning balls and strikes during the middle of an at-bat while Hernandez worked behind the plate, and the second baseman lashed out the following day.

Joey Gallo homered for the third straight game and AL-high 10th time in 14 games this month. He has 35 homers this year. Adrian Beltre and Nomar Mazara also homered for Texas.

Hamels (8-1) gave up four runs and eight hits with a season-high five walks in six innings. Chad Bell (0-1) took the loss.

Cubs 7, Reds 6

In Chicago, Anthony Rizzo hit a grand slam in the first inning and Javier Baez scored on a wild pitch in the ninth as Chicago beat Cincinnati.

Baez opened the bottom of the ninth with a double off Wandy Peralta (3-3) and pinch-hitter Jon Jay walked. Then, Ben Zobrist moved the runners with a groundout.

Reliever Blake Wood came in and struck out Albert Almora Jr. With two outs and Kris Bryant batting, Wood threw a breaking pitch that got away from catcher Tucker Barnhart for the game winner.

Cincinnati's Joey Votto had his streak of reaching base at least twice in a game come to an end. Votto did reach once but he fell one game shy of tying Ted Williams' record of 21 straight games.

Wade Davis (3-1) pitched a perfect ninth.

Angels 3, Nationals 2

In Washington, Luis Valbuena and Kole Calhoun homered, Ricky Nolasco bounced back from a rocky first inning before exiting with an injury and Los Angeles split the two-game series with NL East-leading Washington.

The Angels won for the seventh time in eight games.

Tanner Roark (9-8) allowed four hits in seven innings for Washington, but was done in by the two home runs.

Nolasco (6-12) threw 31 of his 112 pitches in the first inning, but he escaped trouble in the third and fourth to allow only two runs while striking out five.

Yankees 5, Mets 3

In New York, Aaron Judge launched a titanic homer, Didi Gregorius snapped a seventh-inning tie with a two-run double and the New York Yankees beat the Mets for their third straight victory in the Subway Series.

Judge enjoyed his first game at Citi Field, hitting a solo drive into the rarely reached third deck in left. Mets left fielder Yoenis Cespedes never even budged as Judge's AL-leading 37th home run, projected at 457 feet, soared way over his head.

The rookie slugger also struck out in the ninth inning to extend a dubious streak: Judge has fanned in 33 consecutive games, three shy of the record for a position player set by Adam Dunn from 2011-2012.

Rene Rivera homered for the Mets, who will try to prevent a four-game sweep by the Yankees in the series finale Thursday night.

Tommy Kahnle (2-3) retired both batters he faced. David Robertson struck out two in a hitless ninth for his 14th save, and first since rejoining the Yankees. Paul Sewald (0-5) took the loss.

Brewers 7, Pirates 6

In Milwaukee, Manny Pina hit a two-run homer in the eighth inning to lift Milwaukee over Pittsburgh.

Keon Broxton homered twice and Neil Walker and Travis Shaw also went deep as the Brewers completed a sweep of the two-game series with their fourth straight win after an extended offensive slump.

Pina's shot came off reliever Juan Nicasio (1-5). Anthony Swarzak (1-0) got the win and Corey Knebel earned his 24th save in 29 chances.

Blue Jays 3, Rays 2

In Toronto, Marcus Stroman pitched 6 1/3 innings, Steve Pearce homered and scored twice and Toronto beat Tampa Bay.

Stroman (11-6) allowed two runs and six hits to beat the Rays for the first time in five career meetings at Rogers Centre. The right-hander entered 0-3 with a 6.38 ERA in four home starts against the AL East rivals.

Roberto Osuna pitched around a leadoff single in the ninth for his 31st save in 38 chances.

Jake Faria (5-4) lost his third straight start, allowing three runs in 5 1/3 innings.

Astros 9, Diamondbacks 5

In Houston, Josh Reddick hit a two-run homer in a four-run eighth inning as Houston defeated Arizona.

Paul Goldschmidt hit a two-run homer and J.D. Martinez followed with a home run as the Diamondbacks pulled within 5-4 in the eighth.

Morton (10-5) gave up one run and three hits in 6 1/3 innings, striking out nine.

Taijuan Walker (6-7) allowed five runs—three earned—on nine hits in five innings.

Mariners 7, Orioles 6

In Seattle, recently acquired Yonder Alonso hit his first homer for Seattle and drove in three runs, and Marc Rzepczynski struck out Chris Davis with the bases loaded to end a win over Baltimore.

Alonso, acquired in a trade with Oakland on Aug. 6, hit a two-run homer in the fourth inning, his 23rd of the season. He added an RBI single during a three-run fifth and also singled in the seventh.

Leonys Martin opened the sixth with his third home run to put Seattle up 7-4.

Tony Zych (6-3) pitched 1 2/3 scoreless innings in relief. Ubaldo Jimenez (5-8) allowed six runs in 4 1/3 innings.

Royals 7, Athletics 6

In Oakland, Calif., Alex Gordon hit a go-ahead single in the ninth inning and Kansas City topped Oakland.

Alcides Escobar doubled to start the ninth against Blake Treinen (1-1), matching his season high with three hits. Then Gordon delivered his second run-scoring single of the series finale.

Oakland's Matt Chapman hit a tying two-run homer in the eighth against Brandon Maurer (1-1), who wound up the winner.

Kelvin Herrera finished for his 26th save in 29 chances after allowing Ryon Healy's two-out infield single.

Padres 3, Phillies 0

In San Diego, Clayton Richard pitched a three-hitter for his first shutout since 2012 and Wil Myers stole three bases in an inning as San Diego completed a three-game sweep of Philadelphia.

Richard (6-12) struck out six and walked one and ended his four-game losing streak.

Nick Pivetta (4-8) struck out nine of the first 10 batters, and fanned a career-high 11 in five-plus innings.

Myers, who has scuffled since the All-Star break, reached base four times. He became the first player since the Marlins' Dee Gordon in 2011 to swipe second, third and home in an inning and the first ever Padre to do so.

Myers' final swipe came when he scored on the back end a double steal after Austin Hedges broke from first base. As Hedges was caught in a rundown, Myers headed for the plate and just got his hand in before Cameron Rupp's tag.

Rockies 17, Braves 2

In Denver, Trevor Story had two homers and a career-high six RBIs, Jon Gray pitched six strong innings and Colorado routed Atlanta.

Mark Reynolds also homered and drove in four runs, and DJ LeMahieu had a double and RBI single in his fifth four-hit game of the season for the Rockies.

Gerardo Parra added three hits and four RBIs for Colorado.

Gray (5-2) allowed two runs and five hits. Mike Foltynewicz (10-8) went 3 1/3 innings and allowed eight hits and career-high nine runs.

Dodgers 5, White Sox 4

In Los Angeles, Yasiel Puig's two-run double in the bottom of the ninth inning lifted the Dodgers over the White Sox for their second comeback win in as many games.

Puig sent a 3-2 pitch from Jake Petricka (1-1) into center field, scoring Logan Forsythe and Austin Barnes.

The victory salvaged the much-anticipated home debut of Yu Darvish, who didn't figure in the decision while pitching on his 31st birthday.

Chicago's Leury Garcia, Nicky Deltmonico and Jose Abreu homered off Darvish, who gave up three runs and eight hits in six innings.

Ross Stripling (2-4) got the victory with one inning of relief.

LeBron calls for love, unity before taking swipe at Trump

SANDUSKY, Ohio (AP)—Along with getting good grades and listening to their parents, LeBron James has encouraged kids in his foundation's educational program to stand up for their beliefs.

On Tuesday night, the superstar gave a lesson in how it's done.

Concluding a day of fun and games at an amusement park, James turned serious when speaking about the recent violence and tragedy in Charlottesville. James also took a pointed swipe at President Donald Trump, calling him the "so-called president."

While holding his young daughter, Zhuri, James stood on stage before an excited crowd of students, parents and others connected to the LeBron James Family Foundation and delivered his emotional message.

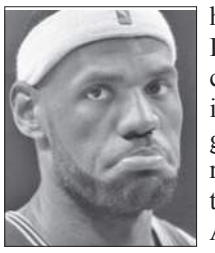
"I know there's a lot of tragic things happening in Charlottesville," James said to cap the annual event at Cedar Point amusement park. "I have this platform and I'm somebody that has a voice of command, and the only way for us to get better as a society and for us to get better as people is love. And that's the only way we're going to be able to conquer something as one."

Then, James, who endorsed Hillary Clinton last year and introduced her at a rally in Cleveland just two days before the election, went at Trump, whom he has criticized in the past.

"It's not about the guy that's the so-called president of the United States, or whatever the case. It's not about a teacher that you don't feel like cares about what's going on with you every day. It's not about people that you just don't feel like want to give the best energy and effort to you. It's about us. It's about us looking in the mirror. Kids all the way up to the adults. All of us looking in the mirror and saying, 'What can we do better to help change?' And if we can all do that and give 110 percent, then that's all you can ask for.

"So, shout-out to the innocent people in Charlottesville and shout-out to everybody across the world that just want to be great and just want to love. Thank you, and I love you all."

James' remarks ended a star-studded show that included pop stars Jordin Sparks and Usher as well as his Cavaliers' teammate J.R. Smith. They stood alongside him for his message along with his sons, Bronny and Bryce.


James

There had been a celebratory vibe all day, as James hosted nearly 7,000 of his foundation's students and their families, who strolled around the immense park best known for its roller-coasters wearing light blue T-shirts with "We Are Family" across the fronts.

It was as if James' hometown of Akron had all gone out together for the day, and that was exactly the point of the event—to celebrate the successes of kids committed to making more of their lives.

Now in its sixth year, James' foundation has brought hope to children who might not have any otherwise. If the students meet certain criteria, stay in the program and graduate, they can receive full tuition to the University of Akron.

"That means everything," Latasha McCullough said as she sat with her husband, Arthur, and children Arlissa and Arsea while waiting for James to appear on stage.

The McCulloughs have been directly impacted by James and his work, and they're forever grateful.

"He doesn't have to do anything," Latasha said. "All he is responsible for are his kids, his family, go to work and provide for his, but he does it for his city. He does it for everybody, everybody's kids. All the things he didn't have growing up, he's giving it to our kids with no problem and he's not being selfish. It's constant and consistent, you earn what you get."

James has grown his foundation beyond its initial goals of tackling the city's drop-out rate. Next year, the charity will open the I Promise School, designed to help students who have already fallen behind and need extra attention.

Michelle Campbell, executive director of the LeBron James Family Foundation, is awed by what the group has accomplished.

James has led the way.

"It's never enough with him," she said. "He is always pushing, just like on the basketball court, pushing and pushing. I could have never imagined what we have done and are doing, but with his belief and what he wants to do and his drive and his ability to put all these partners around us. We can't fail.

"It started out with working with kids and changing a child, then OK, we got the family involved and we learned that some didn't have their high school diplomas, so we broke down those barriers. Now he's changing a whole community. He's uplifting this whole community, on his back."

WNBA players show support for Charlottesville victims

The WNBA and its players are showing their support for the victims of racially charged violence in Charlottesville.

The Los Angeles Sparks and the Washington Mystics locked arms at center court before the start of their nationally televised game Wednesday night. The Minnesota Lynx and Seattle Storm did the same thing before their contest later in the evening.

"It is not a surprise that racism and bigotry exist in this country, but it is not something we stand for in any way. We feel great shock, sickness, and sadness with the degree of acceptance and normalization of this hatred, culminating in ways in the events in Charlottesville this past weekend," players from the Washington Mystics and Los Angeles Sparks said in a statement.

"We feel pain and disbelief following the blatant hate displayed and the President's response to it. There is no way to innocently protest alongside a hate-based group and to take pause on condemning the acts that took place is inexcusable."

Heather Heyer was killed when a car rammed into a crowd of people protesting a white nationalist rally that descended into violence last weekend. Two Virginia State police officers also died in a separate incident when their helicopter crashed.

Both the Mystics and Sparks have visited the National Museum of African American History and Culture over the past month.

"Our team recently had the honor of meeting Rep. John Lewis, and part of his mantra that especially resonated with us was the message of recognition of wrong and having the courage to speak out," the players' statement said. "When you see something that is not right, not fair, not just, you have to speak up. You have to say something; you have to do something."

The league sent out a memo to its teams which was obtained by The Associated Press on Wednesday night. In the memo the WNBA said it's "suspending the national anthem protocol (which entails lining up in a dignified posture along the foul lines during the playing of the national anthem) beginning (Wednesday) and ending August 25."

The memo went on to say the league was doing this to accommodate the support of the players' voices and to "honor the victims of the Charlottesville tragedy".

The WNBA was doing this at the request of Nneka Ogwumike, the Sparks star who is president of the players' union.

"We fully support our players, who are offering a demonstration of unity that we hope America can emulate in the wake of the tragic events in Charlottesville," WNBA President Lisa Borders said in a statement. "We offer our sincere condolences to the families who lost loved ones and our support to those who were injured during the inexcusable violence that transpired."

The league also offered a sample script for teams to announce to the crowd before the start of games. It's the same script that the New York Liberty used in their game against the Los Angeles Sparks on Sunday.

"Fans, at this time we ask that you please rise, as we take a moment of silence to remember 32-year old Heather Heyer, and Virginia State Patrol Troopers Berke Bates and Lieutenant H. Jay Cullen, who died tragically as a result of the violence that transpired this weekend in Charlottesville, Virginia. As we mourn those who lost their lives, let us also remind ourselves of the strength, values, and diversity that unite us as Americans."

It's the second consecutive summer that the WNBA players have responded to a social issue . Last year WNBA players wore black shirts in support of the black lives matter movement. The league originally fined the players for it but then rescind the fines.

Unlike last summer with the black shirts, the players let the league know ahead of time about their plans.

"I like the fact that players in our league have a conscience and are willing to express it," Washington Mystics coach Mike Thibault said. "Our team talked about it this morning and I thought they did the right thing. It was appropriate and it sent a positive message for what needs to be in our country." ***(AP)***

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Ren, Tudela inch closer to doubles finale

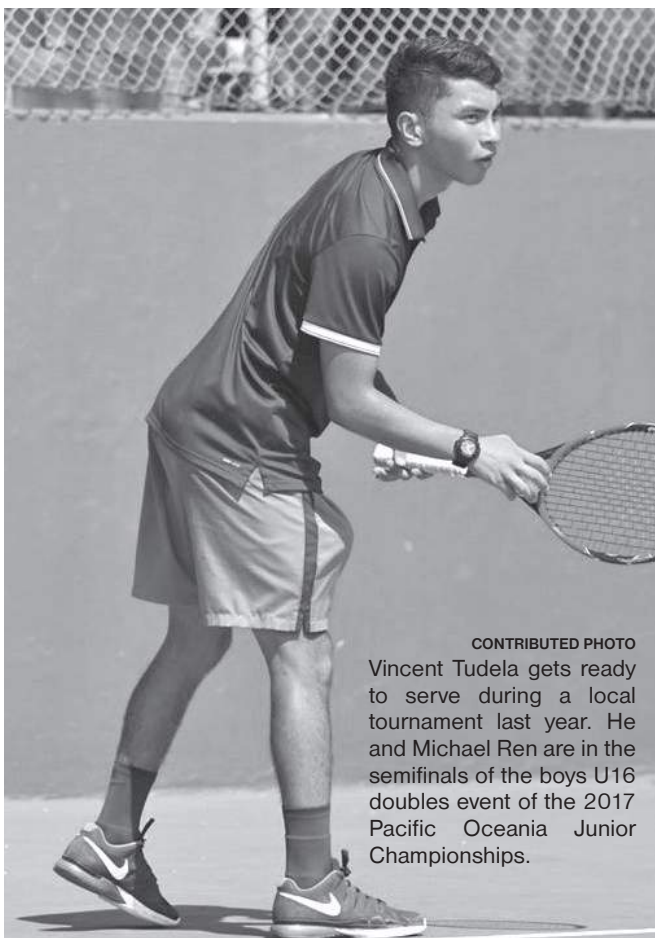
By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

After getting the boot in singles play, the CNMI's Michael Ren and Vincent Tudela are hoping to make up for lost ground in the doubles competition of the 2017 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships.

The No. 1 seeded pair had a statement game in the boys U16 doubles after sweeping Fiji's Gavin Molotii and Vanuatu's Samuel Strid. Rena and Tudela hammered Strid and Molotii in the first set, 4-0, and then recorded a 4-2 victory in the second to move into the semifinals where they will be up against the Tahiti duo of Jeremy Guines and Hirinaki Lo. The Tahiti players won the second Final Four berth at the lower half of the draw after outclassing Guam's Camden Camacho and the Federated States of Micronesia's Joab Williams, 5-3, 4-2.

At the top half of the draw, the CNMI also has an entry in the semifinals in the tested tandem of Ken Song and Robbie Schorr, the champions in last year's boys U14 doubles division. Song and Schorr boosted their chances for a second doubles crown in the POJC after eliminating the Cook Islands' Elijah Amataiti and Samoa's Kristen Pavitt, 4-0, 4-2. The CNMI duo will face No. 1 Marlin Hannam and Clement Mainguy of Vanuatu today for a finals slot in the division.

In the girls U16 doubles, Carol Lee, who is with Malika Miyawaki, is on course for a return trip to the finals after they beat Samoa's Penina Kamu and Kava Taufa of Tonga in the quarterfinals, 4-1, 4-0. Miyawaki and Lee will aim for a finals ticket today when they duel the Tongan pair of Peata Fatai and Brookie Maasi, who pulled off a 4-2, 1-4, 11-9 victory against the CNMI's Grace Choi and Fiji's Saoirse Breen to make it to the semifinals. The other Final Four pairing will have No. 1 Naia Guitton of Tahiti and Eleanor Schuster of Samoa battling Vanuatu's Rosalie Molballeh and Daisy Sipiti. Guitton and Schuster drew a bye in the quarterfinals for an outright semis entry, while the Vanuatu players advanced following a 4-1, 4-1 win over Guam's Anika Sachdev and Joycelyn Tenai.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Vincent Tudela gets ready to serve during a local tournament last year. He and Michael Ren are in the semifinals of the boys U16 doubles event of the 2017 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships.

In the boys U14 doubles, Ji Min Woo and Seung Jin Paik are in the semis after defeating Fiji's Avikash Kumar and Vanuatu's Warea Tigona, 4-0, 4-2. The CNMI players' foe in the Final Four are Tahiti's Manovai Elie and Mohearii Polin, who ousted the Commonwealth's Richard Steele and Tonga's Christopher Maasi, 4-5 (4), 4-1, 10-7. The CNMI's fourth player in the division, Sean Lee, is with the FSM's Jerson Freddy and they gained a semis berth after eliminating Tahiti's Meheannu Larson and Vanuatu's Terence Winter, 4-2, 4-1. Lee and Freddy will challenge No. 1 Kelese Kofe of Tuvali and Vanuatu's Maui Leflon for the finals berth at the upper half of the draw. Kofe and Leflon moved one win away from the finals after dominating Guam's Andrew Leng and Thomas Ysrael, 4-1, 4-1.

'Foam run' registration opens

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Registration for the inaugural Triple J Foam & Fun Run 5K is now open and registration forms are available at Triple J Motors, Triple J Five Star/Truckload Wholesale, Hertz Rental in Garapan, and the Triple J/Surf Rider Corporate Office.

Race day is on Sept. 2 and showtime is at 5:15am with gun starts at 6am. The race begins at the now Sakman Guma or the former 4H Building in Susupe. Runners will head toward Quartermaster Road along Beach Road and back to the starting line.

Triple J introduced the event in Guam 12 years ago and decided to bring it to Saipan where they plan to hold it every year.

Two infinite foam machines shooting over 15 feet of colored bubbles will be greeting participants at the finish line. Colored powder will be added in the foam machines to make it doubly fun.

Registration fee is $10 or $35 for a group of four and $15 on race day. The first 1,000 registrants will get free dri-fit race T-shirts.

Medals and other prizes will be given to the overall men's and women's champion, and the top finishers in each age group.

The fun run is also a fundraising event where all proceeds with the Commonwealth Cancer Association and Make-A-Wish Foundation as recipients.

There will be free food while raffle prizes will also be given away including the grand prize of one round-trip ticket to anywhere in Asia or Micronesia courtesy of United Airlines.

Organizers are encouraging participants to carpool since parking space is expected to be limited around the venue. Traffic is also expected to build up within the area so motorists and participants are advised to be extra careful.

For more information, email Triple J vice president for marketing and public relations Kristine Lujan at klujan@triplejguam.com or Tina Esteves at marketing@triplejguam.com or visit Triple J Motors' Facebook page for updates.

GEAR Adventure Race on Aug. 26

The Guam Extreme Adventure Race organization will be hosting a sprint "GEAR Adventure Race" on Aug. 26 at 7am at Channel 10 top of Turner Road in Nimitz Hill.

Participants will compete in teams of two with the objective of the challenge is to navigate through pre-set checkpoints located in the surrounding areas on mountain bike and by foot using a topographical map. Each checkpoint will be worth a certain number of points.

The first team to get back to the starting point with highest points tally will be the winners.

The organizers have arranged a variety of unique locations for checkpoints that will test participants' skills of navigation, local knowledge and endurance.

"Races are typically held in jungle and cross country locations and consist of navigation, mountain biking, coastal steering and often water crossing and kayaking," says race organizer Phil Law.

There will be four races in the series and the overall highest grossing racers will receive prizes.

Participants completing three or more races will receive T-shirts as well as refreshments after the race.

Registration will take place on race day from 6am at a cost of $10 per race.

Teams interested in signing up can search Guam Extreme Adventure Race on Facebook email race organizer Phil Law at phil.is.law@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

BRAINS

From Page 32

would take you four or five minutes, but you feel that you could complete the penalty in half the time, then why not go for the penalty," added Lee, who was joined by CNMI representatives Andrew Agulto and Rodney Camacho in the race. The two competed in the recreational division

He started out strong and was among the first ones who managed to climb the first obstacle, an inflatable slide, but failed to clear it after his left arm was caught in the ropes. "I trained to compete but I was one of five persons that got trapped.

"I popped my shoulder and I got stuck when the inflatable slide started to deflate due to over capacity, while I was still on top of it. People holding on to me also did not help my situation."

Lee managed to complete the race even without using his left shoulder. "I sucked it up and finished the race. There's this obstacle where you need to use your both arms and legs. I only used one arm and wrapped my legs on the rope to clear the wall."

"The course dealt with a lot of your upper body strength. And there were a lot of runs too. I was running with limited movement with my left arm for I don't want to make things worse," he added.

The race was a qualifying event for the Obstacle Course Racing World Championships on Oct. 15 in Blue Mountain, Ontario, Canada. The Top 3 finishers in each of the male and female elite and the Top 5 in the age groups earned slots in the finals.

Lee came in fifth in the 35-39 age group in the elite division and 37th overall, completing the challenging course in 1:12:53. He managed to clinch a spot in the worlds but sadly he won't compete as he needs to rest his shoulder.

"I was not expecting it. My time was not something to brag about, but I'm going to use this as a reminder to myself to not give up on something you've been working hard. The [world championships] is in October, so I probably won't go, my shoulder is not yet 100 percent.

"Maybe it was also adrenalin pumping that's why I did not felt any pain at first. But after the race, that's when I started to feel and I took painkillers after the event. It was still a fun experience."

Lee said that he would again join next year. "This is my first time at the competitive level. There was a lot of cardio and the use of your upper body, which was good since that has been what I'm training on. I'll train harder and smarter, and be back again next year."

LEE

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4-2, 4-0 triumph over Tahiti's Kira Fong Loi in the Group D rescheduled match. However, the No. 3 Conatsu missed the semifinals after she was outclassed by unranked Penina Kamu of Samoa in the quarterfinals, 2-4, 0-4. Kamu will try to use her upset axe anew today when she takes on No. 1 Clara Cwajenbaum of New Caledonia, who advanced to the semis after a 4-0, 4-1 victory against Tahiti's Celine Snogan. The other Final Four pairing will have Conatsu challenging No. 2 seed and the Solomon Islands' Zorika Morgan, a 4-0, 4-0 winner versus Loi.

In the girls U16 singles, only Carol Lee survived the elimination round, as Grace Choi and Malika Miyawaki dropped their make-up matches yesterday. Carol went 2-0 in the pool play after whipping Tonga's Kava Taufa, 4-0, 4-0, and the former moved into the quarterfinals against another Tongan player in Brookie Maasi.

Miyawaki bowed to No. 2 Naia Guitton of Tahiti, 0-4, 0-4, to go winless in pool play, while Choi finished the eliminations with a 1-2 record and missed the playoffs after a similar shutout loss to No. 3 Eleanor Schuster of Samoa.

In the boys U16 singles, No. 3 Robbie Schorr and the unranked Ken Song are left to carry the fight for the CNMI Junior National Team. Schorr ruled Group C after crushing Fiji's Shantanu Shail in a make-up match, 4-0, 4-0, to advance to the quarterfinals where he will incidentally meet Song. Song had a 1-1 record in Group A. In Group D, No.4 Michael Ren lost to the unranked Marlin Hannam of Vanuatu, 2-4, 1-4, to fall short in his playoff bid.

AYUYUS

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South Korea early this month for a five-day training camp where they challenged Japanese and Korean youth squads.

"There are many things I've learned in the training camp. One is you have to work hard and put everything you got, it doesn't matter if it's the first minute of the game or the 90th minute because every effort to win that ball counts. We have to continue working hard to improve and bring positive results from the tournament in Australia," the Marianas High School student added.

Bucayo and company will compete in the AFC U19 Championship 2018 Qualifiers from Oct. 31 to Nov. 8 and will play against the host country, Hong Kong, and North Korea.

The Canape brothers and Manabat, on the other hand, will be participating in the AFC U16 Championship 2018 Qualifiers that will be held in Thailand from Sept. 16 to 24 and they put in the work instead of taking a summer vacation to develop the team's chemistry and prove their worth on the squad.

"I am new to the team, so as much as possible I wanted to attend every training session because I want to keep up with my teammates and learn tactics and improve my skills faster," the 14-year-old Ezekiel said.

Guiller has been with the squad longer than his younger brother, but he feels he still needs more time to jell well with his teammates so attending every practice is a must for him.

"I need to know every move of my teammates so I know how I can help them and work with them and to be able to do that, we have to practice a lot together. I would like to thank my parents and friends for making sure that I make it to practice on time," Guiller said.

2017 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

The West, North, and East squads enter the court during the opening ceremony for the 2017 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships last Monday in Fiji.

Ken Song returns a shot to his boys U16 singles opponent.

The CNMI's Richard Steele, right, poses for a photo with his foe in the boys U14 singles event.

Seung Jin Paik hits a backhand return.

Grace Choi makes a baseline return.

Sisters Conatsu, left, and Coume Kaga exchange high-fives after scoring a point.

Ji Min Woo serves.

Malika Miyawaki goes for a backhand return.

Red Sox rally to beat Cardinals, 5-4

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LeBron calls for love, unity before taking swipe at Trump

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Lee, Woo boost finals bid

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

An all-CNMI finals in the boys U14 singles event of the 2017 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships looms as Ji Min Woo and Sean Lee survived the quarterfinal round yesterday in Fiji.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Sean Lee is seen here returning a shot to Ji Min Woo in a local tournament last year. Woo and Lee both made it to the semifinals of the boys U14 singles event of the 2017 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships after surviving the first round of the playoffs yesterday in Fiji.

The No. 1 seed Woo moved one win away from advancing to the title match in the division following a 4-1, 4-1 victory over New Caledonia's Terence Winter in the Round of 8. The unranked Lee, on the other hand, entered the semis after slipping past Guam's Andrew Leng, 5-3, 5-4 (7). Earlier in a pool play game yesterday morning, Lee pulled off an upset over No. 4 and Tuvalu's Kelese Kofe, 4-1, 4-2, to move into the playoffs, while Woo made the cut as early as last Wednesday after sweeping the elimination round.

Woo and Lee could secure the Top 2 spots for the CNMI today if they win against Tahiti's Manovai Elie and Tonga's Christopher Maasi, respectively. Elie barged into the semifinals after stunning No. 2 Maui Leflon in the quarterfinals, 4-1, 4-1, while Maasi also pulled the rug under No. 3 Mohearii Polin of Tahiti, 4-1, 5-4 (5) to set up a Final Four duel against Lee.

In the girls U14 singles, the CNMI is down to one player with the unseeded Conatsu Kaga marching into the semifinals. Conatsu eased her way to the Final Four after dominating the Federated States of Micronesia's Ridianne Wolphagen, 4-0, 4-0. The older Kaga is still unbeaten in the division, as she also swept the pool games in Group C after topping FSM's Anne Skilling in a make-up match yesterday morning, 4-0, 4-1.

Conatsu's sister Coume was also undefeated in pool play following a

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Brains, brawn to complete Trench Challenge 2017

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

It takes more than strength to conquer the grueling obstacle course of the Guam Trench Challenge 2017.

And James Lee learned that the hard way after injuring his left shoulder when he competed in last Sunday's event at the Guam International Raceway in Yigo.

Lee was among the hundreds that joined the race where you need to hurdle 20 obstacles scattered around the course. The person who completes the race in the shortest time is declared the winner.

Penalties, like doing burpees or other exercises, were also given to those who failed to hurdle the obstacles. Competitors are allowed to "tap out" if they feel they could not complete the obstacle and opt to doing the penalty.

"You have to use your mind when taking on the obstacles. Sure, you can rely on your strength and challenge yourself, but is it more practical? You could go and try to complete the obstacle or you could just do the penalty," Lee told *Saipan Tribune*.

"If completing the obstacle

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
A visibly bruised James Lee poses after crossing the finish line of last Sunday's Trench Challenge 2017 held at the Guam International Raceway in Yigo.

4 Teen Ayuyus recognized

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The coaching staff of the CNMI's U15 and U18 national teams acknowledged the unwavering commitment of four players during the group's summer training sessions.

John Bucayo, brothers John Guiller and John Ezekiel Canape, and Sebastien Manabat were recognized for having the best attendance in the Teen Ayuyus' practices and preparations for the Asian Football Confederation tournaments. Bucayo is one of the goalies for the CNMI Boys U18 National Team and accumulated nearly 80 training hours, while the Canape siblings and Manabat spent more than 100 hours during the CNMI Boys U15 National Team's training. The two national squads practiced six times a week in the summer, spending two hours per training session.

The four outstanding players, who were selected by head coach Michiteru Mita and his assistants Jershwin Angeles and Jonathan Takano, each received a pair of shoes from Northern Mariana Islands Football Association for their feat.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
John Bucayo poses with the pair of shoes he received from Northern Mariana Islands Football Association for having the best attendance in their training sessions last summer.

"We rewarded them for showing commitment to the national team. They came to training regularly and did a lot of hard work during the summer holiday in the last two months," Mita said.

All four did not expect the recognition, adding that since they've been selected on the national squad, they believed it is their responsibility to attend every training session.

"Honestly, it was something I did not expect. The national team is my priority so attending every single practice is my responsibility as a player. The recognition may be simple, but it has also motivated me to come to every single practice to be the best I can be," Bucayo said.

The Teen Ayuyus goalkeeper was part of the 20-player team that went to

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
From left, John Ezekiel and John Guiller Canape and Sebastien Manabat show the pair of shoes they got from Northern Mariana Islands Football Association for having the best attendance in their training sessions last summer.

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